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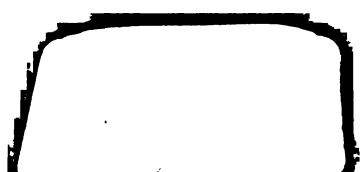
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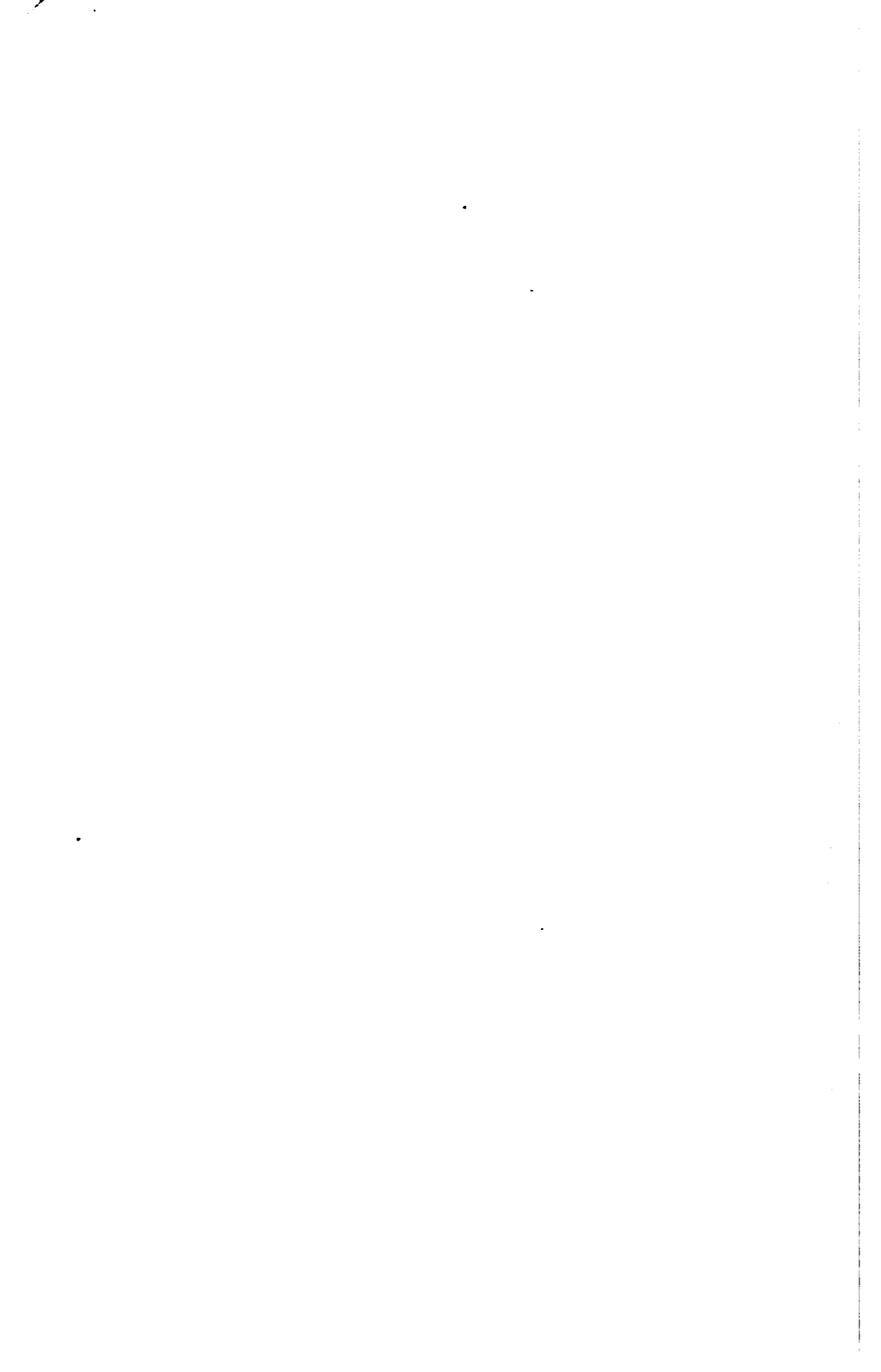
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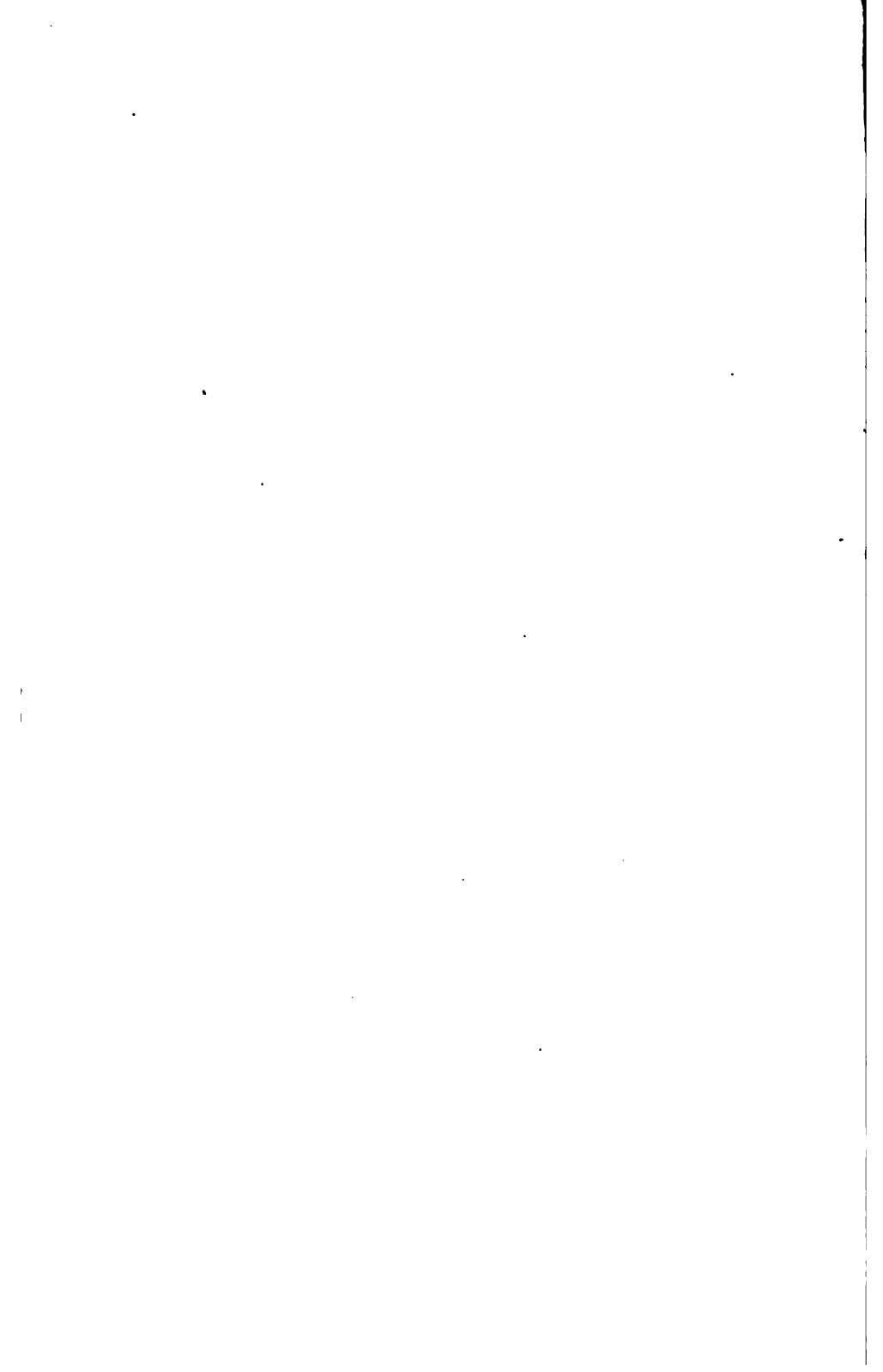


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Norfolk Archaeology.



Norfolk Archaeology:

OR

MISCELLANEOUS TRACTS

RELATING TO

THE ANTIQUITIES OF THE COUNTY OF NORFOLK.

PUBLISHED BY THE

NORFOLK AND NORWICH

ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

*Nescio quâ natale solum dulcedine captos
Ducit, et immemores non sinit esse sui.*

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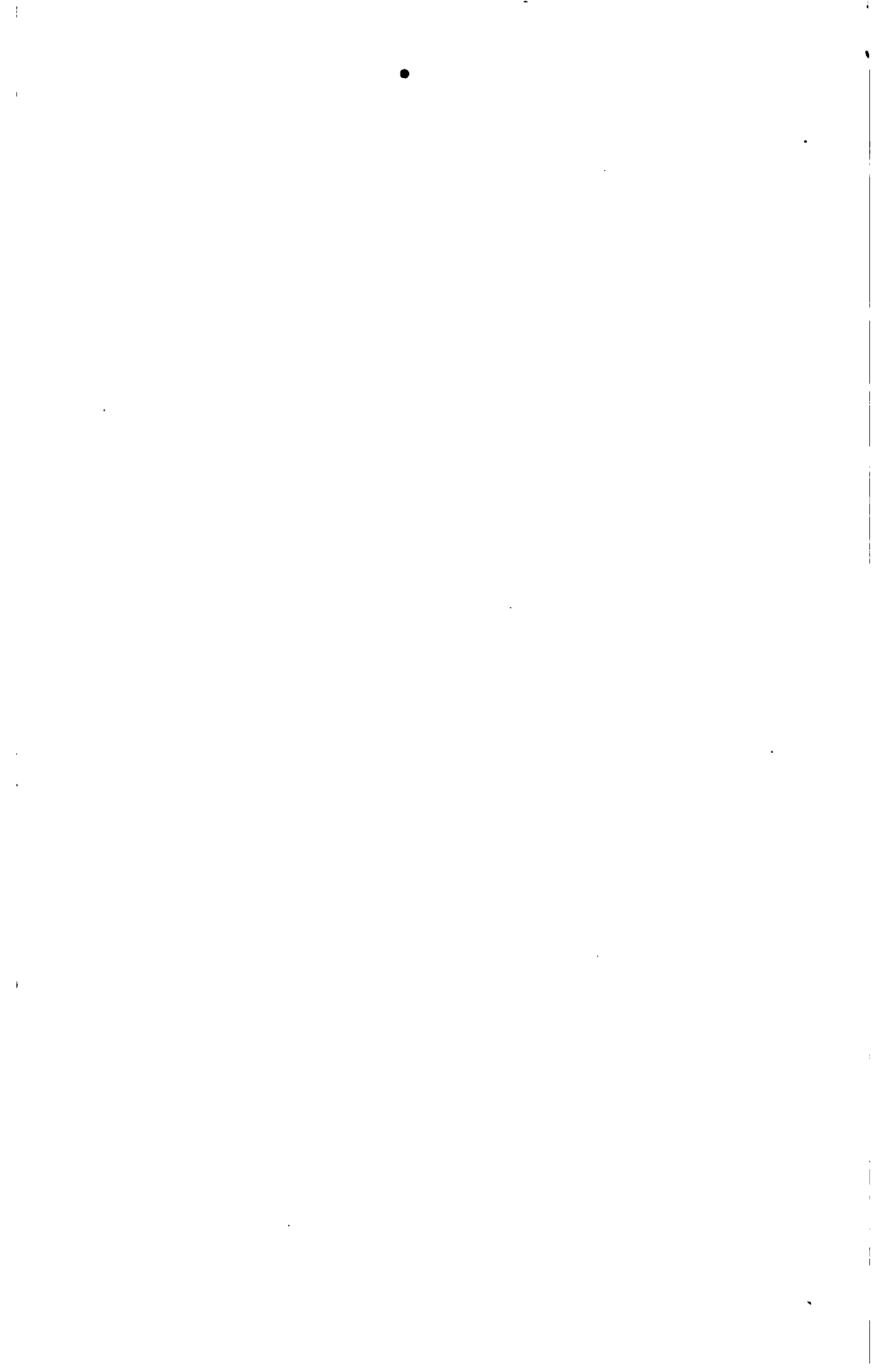
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Walter de Suffield.

Walter de Suffield (al. Calthorp),
Bp. of Norwich 1244—57.—*M. Paris.*

Roger de Hales (alias Calthorp.)

William de Calthorp, founded Burnham Priory 1241.—*Cecilia de Burnham (alias Warren).—Bl. Norf. iii. 717.*

Walter de Calthorp, = Ela, da. of Sir Hervey Stanhow.—*Bl. Norf.* But *V. C.* speaks of Alice, wife of J. Bigot, "quæ fuit uxor Walkeri Calthorp fl. Will. temp. *Edw. I.*" Compare the grandson.

Sir William Calthorp, = Isabel, da. of Lord Lovell of Titchmarsh, who was in joined wife in entail of Seething, Burnham, &c., Edw. I. last Parliament at Carlisle, and again in 1313. on Walter their eldest son.—*V. C.* Ob. 1360.

Sir Walter = Alice, da. of Sir Ralph J. Pierpoint, Standard Bearer to Edw. III., but see *Bl. Norf. iii. 717.* Before 1342. Remar. to Bigot.—*V. C.* "Joh. fl. Simonis," who by fine settled on them Hurst Pierpoint.

Alienore, da. of Sir John = Sir William Calthorp, = Sibilla, da. and hr. of Sir Edmund Mauby, ob. before 1409. witness in Grey and Hastings' Plea of Arma, ob. 1420, brass at Burnham.

Sir John Calthorp, = Anne, da. of Sir J. Wyth and of Sibilla his stepmother.—*Bl. Norf.* Amy (not Anne).

Elizabeth, da. = Sir William Calthorp, b. 1409, = Elizabeth, da. and coh. of Sir Miles Stapleton, Sheriff of Norf. 1442—58. "In- billed" for Coronation 1461.—*Past. Let. 391.* Again Sheriff 1464—76; Commiss. ducis Suff. 1449; ob. 1494, æt. 86. Will Nor. Reg.—*Wolmen.*

Sir Walter Calthorp, ob. a.p.— <i>Bl. Norf. iii. 717.</i> Before 1342.	Ela, wife of Sir J. Pierpoint, Standard Bearer to Edw. III., but see <i>Bl. Norf. iii. 717.</i> <i>V. C.</i> says "Joh. fl. Simonis," who by fine settled on them Hurst Pierpoint.	Sir John Calthorp, living 1360, ob. a.p.	William = A da. of Sir Calthorp. Bur- golion.	Thomas Calthorp.	Richard Calthorp, witness to a deed of Oliver "fratri meo,"	Sir Oliver Calthorp, Sheriff of Norf. 1376, ob. circa 1397.— <i>V. C.</i>	Isabel, da. of Sir Robt. Bacon of Erwar-ton, ob. 1410.— <i>Will with Lord Calthorp.</i>
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A da., wife of Ralph de Hemphall.

Richard Calthorp = Margt. Irmingland. of Cockthorpe. A quo the present Lord Calthorp.

Margaret, wife of Wt. Aslak of Creak, godfather of Sir Francis, who was bn. before 1503.—See Aslak's will, <i>Norf. vi. 339.</i>	Aimé or Ann, w. of Sir Thos. Brewa.	A da., wife of 1, Colville. 2, Brandon. 3, Bartie.
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25 Apr. 1513. She ob. 1509.



The Calthorps of Burnham.

COMMUNICATED BY

THE REV. JAMES LEE-WARNER.

THE Calthorps take their name from a little village on the upper waters of the Bure, which, even before the Conquest, had been held by the Abbey of St. Benedict-in-Hulmo. The undertenant of the abbot was one Godric, his dapifer or steward, in whose family for several generations the office was hereditary. Godric's grandson, Adam, son of Herman, was the first (as far as we know) to assume the name derived from his head-quarters; and the first Calthorp of distinction, who emerges from several aliases, was Walter de Suffield, alias Calthorp, Bishop of Norwich from 1243 to 1256. His will¹ may be read in Blomefield, vol. ii., folio edition, and Matthew Paris (1257) chronicles his death at Colchester, and the translation of his body to Norwich. A fragment of the Lady Chapel, still visible at the east end of the Cathedral, is his work, and only monument. His exact connection with the parent stem is ambiguous; for Blomefield, with all his research, seems hardly to define it. Nevertheless, his voluminous will, his acquisition of the manor, and its transmission through his nephew in the male line, render a relationship indisputable; and we may take it as imparting a tone to the history of the family, so that we find them for several centuries conspicuous founders of religious houses.

¹ The Register of St. Benedict-in-Hulmo, now preserved in the Cottonian Library, contains a list of 1185 charters, &c., and refers to 99 parishes.—Taylor's *Ind. Mon.*

In tracing the early history of the Calthorps, alias Suffields, alias Hobbies, alias Hales, a word as to our sources of information, is, on all accounts, desirable.

We should naturally tread in the steps of the father of Norfolk history, whose patience in unravelling, and skill in recomposing, the tangled threads of a pedigree must often be admitted. But as Homer sometimes slept, so Blomefield is occasionally caught napping; and presently we shall have to notice important slips of his pen, which are almost unaccountable. Sometimes, too, he was embarrassed, rather than assisted, by abundance of material. The Calthorps of the twelfth century were a clan rather than a family, and, long before Blomefield's time, their records had been compiled (probably by a connection) from documents then existing. The labours of this genealogist (presumably one Thomas Gybbons) at the close of the sixteenth century, are preserved in a quarto volume (*Harl. MS.*, 970) thus quaintly entitled, "*Vitis Calthorpiana, in agro Norfolciensi; sive eorundem Genealogia, una cum clavi probatoriâ, sub protestatione de addendo, corrigendo, aut poliendo, prout opus fuerit, et consultius videbitur.*" This MS. was one of the mines in which Blomefield worked; and containing, as it does, either reference to, or abstracts of upwards of one hundred and fifty charters, inquisitions, fines, pleas, escheats, and other documents, its internal evidence is such as to stamp it with a seal of authenticity. It is fortified, moreover, with armorial bearings, enumerated as then existing in the churches of Calthorp, Southacre, Aslacton, Sall, Burnham, Harpley, &c. On the battlements of this last a series of escutcheons² of singular value and interest is still decipherable, recording the earliest alliance of the family of which we can speak. This alliance, in the person of the first Sir William (whom Blomefield calls son of Sir Roger, and the bishop's nephew and heir) with

² See illustrations, *Norfolk Archaeology*, vol. viii., p. 25.

Cecilia de Burnham was territorial, and almost royal.³ The lady may be fairly said to have confirmed her lord's right to bear on his coat the Warren chequers, and she added many manors⁴ to his other broad lands. The seven churches of Burnham are not all standing; but intermingled with them, or else adjacent to their sites, may be found more than one traditional spot, where the fretted vault may be imagined, or the long-drawn aisle may be traced. The Carmelites of Burnham and the Augustines of North Creake are still to be identified, with many of their walls standing. Of the first of these houses Sir William was a founder and benefactor; and the fourth Sir William in his will (1494) speaks of the latter, as the "place where my ancestors lie buried."⁵

³ Blomefield's *Norfolk*, 716, folio edition.

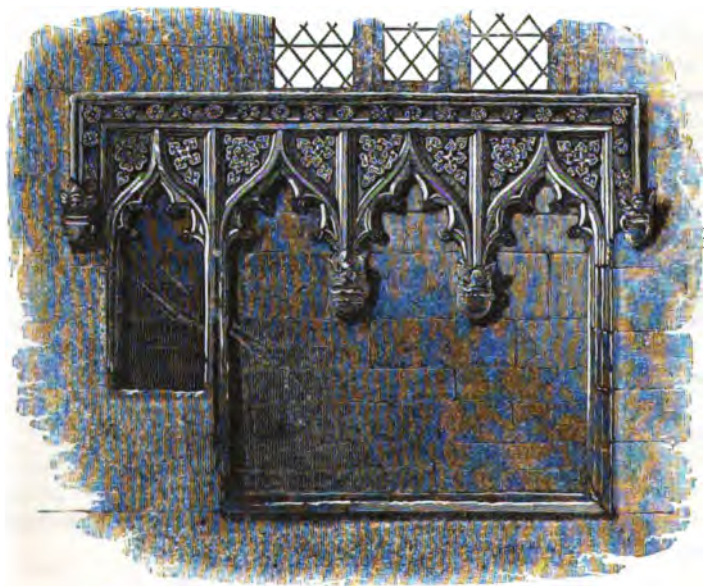
⁴ "A.D. 1276. In Mich. 4 Ed. I., B. R., Will^o. de Calthorp, et Cecilia uxor ejus, petunt versus Joh. de Gournay fil. Willⁱ. advocacionem Eccleie de Harpley ut jus ipsius Cecilie, unde antecessor suus fuit seizitus. And by inq. of Edw. II. (1315) Walter Calthorp, son of Will. and Joh. Gournay tenant in Harpley feod. de honore Warren."—*T. C.*

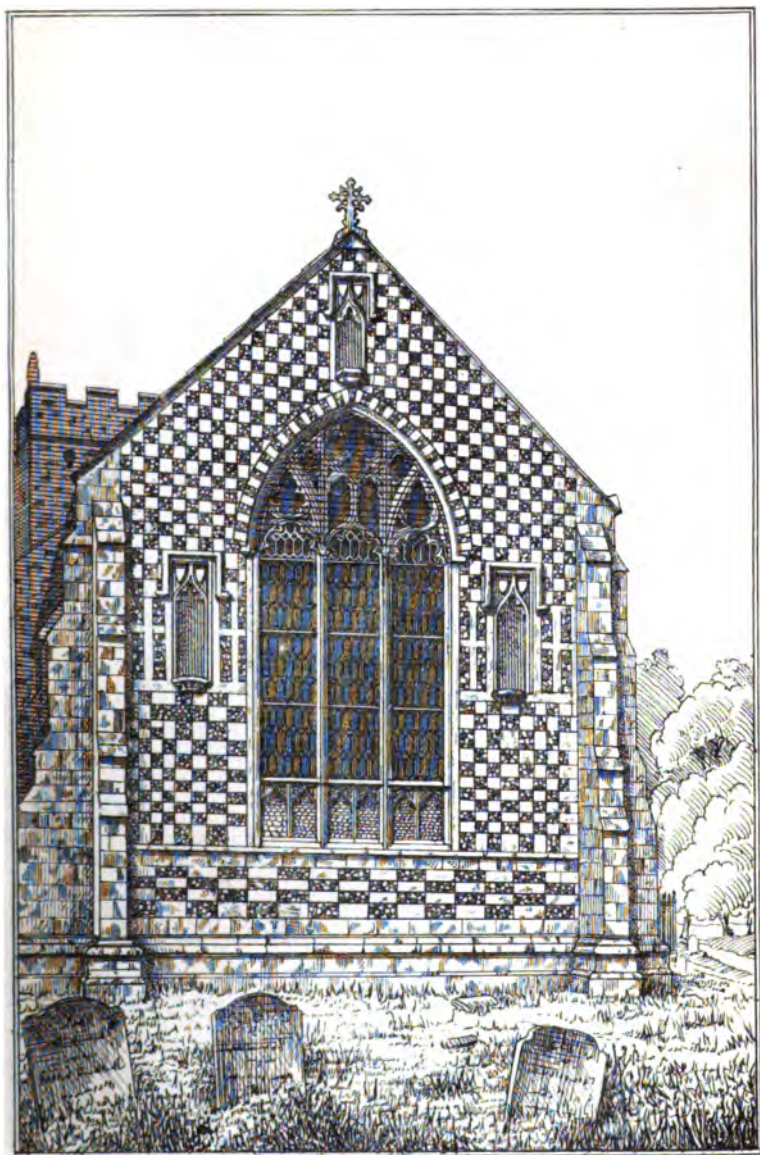
⁵ This fourth Sir William (of whom more hereafter) is the probable claimant of the unknown brass in North Creake chancel, figured and described by Cotman, and mentioned in Boutell as "an unknown founder, circ. 1490." Whether (in accordance with his will) he were buried at White Friars, Norwich, or whether in the restored choir of Creake abbey, we may easily understand its present location, when we read the following extract:—"Item I will y^t all y^t remayne of y^e goodys of Dame Cebyle Boys, and of Mastr^e Rychard Kegyll which amount to y^e sune of lxⁱⁱ. and xiiijⁱⁱ. vj^s. whereof remayneth in the handys of Walter Aslak xxiiijⁱⁱ. and vjⁱⁱ. xiiij^s. iv^d in y^e handys of my son Will. Gurney delyv^ed to them by me y^e said Lega^t and vjⁱⁱ. remayneth in the handys of a man called Fryer of Anmer, whereof y^e sayde Walter Aslak hath obligation, and xxxvijⁱⁱ. xij^s. viij^d. remayneth in my handys at the time of the making of this my tes^t. of all which lxxiiijⁱⁱ. vj^s. I will that my sayde son Gurney and Walter Aslak have the disposycyon for the makynge of the Quer' and of the Presbitery of y^e Abbey of Creyke." The only other claimant is one William Carlton, named in the pariah register as builder of Creak chancel, A.D. 1301, but the canopy of this brass is of later date, and it bears a similar inscription to the brass of the third Sir William at Burnham:—

"Quisquis eris qui transieris, sta, perlege, plora

Sum quod eram, nec eram quod sum, pro me, precor, ora."

The actual date of the manor-house, which from this alliance onwards, was the chief seat of the Calthorps, must remain open to conjecture. Almost within view of the above two abbies, and about midway between them, it stood contiguous to the church of Burnham Thorp; and occupied a pleasant site on the bank of a little rivulet, which kept its moat full, but could never have been tidal much above the "Staith"; (*Prompt. Parv.*) although traditions of anchors dug up in the Creak meadows are still repeated and believed. Blomefield's etymology of Burnham from this river, or burn, is altogether fanciful; for the name was originally Brunham, perhaps from the same root as the Roman Branodunum (Brancaaster) a few miles distant, and due to the frequency of urn-burial and cremation associated with the district (*Hydriotaphia*). Rickman notices the church as having some "curious portions of Perpendicular character," alluding manifestly to the chancel,





BURNHAM THORP CHURCH.



but the piers of the church have an Early English look about them, and the Purbeck marble font, a shallow panelled octagon, carries us back to the time when Cecilia was an infant, and so makes it coeval with the still visible fragment of the manor-house. Bare evidences these, but sufficient to tell their story ! Fond memory lingers around them ; and dull must be the imagination which refuses in these mouldering landmarks to recall the bridal procession, when the last heiress of de Burnham gave her hand and heart, and with them a local habitation to generations yet unborn. But earthly visions are fleeting ; and so it is in the case before us. The lights of the banquet-hall have long since fled ; its garlands have been long dead ; and the auctioneer's hammer, falling on the scene, has transformed the old place into a typical Norfolk village, with its trout stream, church, and rectory. Thus it might have found its level ; but in the rectory, as it then was, the hero of the Nile first saw the light of day, and has thrown a new halo around the classic spot ;—has given it “The Nelson,” where “beer is sold on the premises ;”—and a place in our English annals which will never pass away.

But we return to the palmy days of the now-forgotten mansion, which, under the three Edwards, must have been the frequent scene of similar festivities, for Cecilia de Burnham was not the only heiress who built up the family. She did but lead the way, as the first of the distinguished brides, who afterwards joined their husbands in the conveyance of manors, or even gave them, in their own right, by will or settlement to younger sons.

Thus the first Isabel in our Pedigree, daughter of Lord Lovell of Titchmarsh, joined her lord in the entail of Burnham and Seething, which last came originally by the Bigods.⁶ Again, the second Isabel, wife of Sir Oliver,

⁶ “A.D. 1331. Will. de Calthorp et Isabel ux. ejus Quer' et Joh'. Para. Eccl. Sci. Edm'. de Burnham et al. Deforc' de maneriis de Sything,

Sheriff of Norfolk (1376) exercised her sole right in a devise by will of more abiding consequences. Heiress of the Bacons of Erwardon, she not only brought in addition Ludham, Blakeney, and Cockthorp, but, having outlived her husband, she divided her large estates, and raised her grandchild Richard, whom Blomefield calls her son, (*sed perperam*) to the importance of a landed squire.⁷ Hence the Calthorps of Cockthorp, destined, after three centuries, to survive the elder branch, and close the ancestral line in the person of Sir Christopher Calthorp, K.C.B., once occupant of the old mansion of Thorpland, where these lines are now written.

Before narrating the fortunes of this second family, the first claims precedence; and we begin therefore with Sir William, the elder son of Oliver and Isabella, for he stands out in relief, not only as progenitor of his line, but as the individual Calthorp so well known to archæology by his monumental effigy in plate armour, with the collar of SS., on the pavement of the chancel at Burnham Thorp (rebuilt by his executors). He is given in Cotman's *Brasses* as DNS MANERII ET PATRONVS ECLIE, with a small blank in the inscription, which once must have recorded the name of

Burnham Thorp cum p'tin. et 100 acr' ter. in Burnham et Holkham et de advocat. eccl^{ie} Sci. Petri de Burnham Thorp et Sci. Edm^o. de Burnham Westgate entail Waltero filio et heredibus masculis et p defectum Joh'i fratri et post Olivero frat' dictorum Walteri et Joh'."—*V. C.*

⁷ A.D. 1436 (14 Henry VI.) "Deed with Henry Calthorp, Esq., at Ampton. Sciant præes. et fut. qd. nos Sim. Felbrig mil., Brianus Stapleton mil., Will^o. Paston ex assensu et spontaneâ voluntate Will. Calthorp arm. consanguinei et heredis Will. Calthorp mil. defuncti, viz., filii et heredis Joh'is Calthorp mil. defuncti filii et heredis p'dicti Will. Calthorp mil. et juxta effectum ultimæ voluntatis Isabellæ quæ fuit uxor Oliveri Calthorp mil., sororis et heredis Barth. Bacon mil., demissimus liberé, &c., Ricardo Calthorp arm^o. filio p'dicti Will. Calthorp mil. et Margarette uxori p'dicti maneria nostra de Sniterley. Tho^o. Astley testis. Dat. 14 Henry VI. This Isabel died 12 Henry IV., and by her will gave the manors of Sniterley, &c., to her grandchild Richard of Cockthorp."—*V. C., Harl. MS., 970.*

his mother or wife, but properly left blank in the ingenious restoration by Norman, the village schoolmaster, when the brass was refixed, in the memory of the writer, about A.D. 1845.

Although he died a grandfather in 1420, we must not conclude hastily that he had not responded to the call to arms at Agincourt, for his grandson, his heir apparent, was but a child at the date of the battle. The collar of S which he wears is not of itself conclusive, for the effigy of Sir J. Swinford⁸ thus decorated, at Spratton, is at least ten years earlier, and thus upsets the notion that the SS. was conferred on the evening before the battle. But on that memorable day, among all the counties of England, Norfolk had stood in the front. The truncheon of Sir Thomas Erpingham, thrown up as the signal for the fight, had been once a Norfolk sapling. And not this only, for the Liberate Roll of the Wardrobe provides (*inter alia*) "red and blue cloth for robes trimmed with miniver," for thirteen knights on St. George's Day, 1416, and among them we clearly recognize Morley, Felbrig, and Erpingham, as well-known Norfolk names. Had the collar of Sir William Calthorp, as given in the brass at Burnham, exhibited the occasional form of the double SS. interlaced, I would venture to have assigned his decoration to the year after the victory, for immediately following the ordinance, which is given above from Rymer, (vol. ix., p. 335) there occurs another, "*De modo celebrandi Fest. tam Beati Joh. de Beverlaco, quam etiam SS. Crispini et Crispiniani propter victoriam de Agencourt.*"

In any case, the Norfolk knights, who would appear in this contingent of the second order, must have borne some proportion to those who were deemed worthy to possess the higher distinction. And there were indeed many reasons

⁸ *Journal, Archaeological Institute*, vol. xxxv., p. 423.

for their monarch's prophecy, that "Crispin Crispian should ne'er go bye."

Not only was the battle fought on the saints' day in the calendar, but the field itself was not far distant from the scene of their martyrdom at Suessæ (Soissons) on the river Axona (Aisne). The main incident of the victory, moreover, found its counterpart in the legend. Plunged by the order of the Emperor Maximilian in a cauldron of melted lead, the saints with apparent coolness endured the fiery trial; but while they emerged unscathed, the spray of the molten metal hardened in the air, and blinded the agents of their persecutor, just as the French archers, relied on by their king for the victory, succumbed to the leaden bolts of the English crossbows. Thus may we account, not only for the "Sanctus, Sanctus," which we see twice inscribed on the helmet of a knight recumbent in the church of Dunster, but also for the double SS. which was adopted after Agincourt as a convenient link in the collar.

Sir William is stated by Blomefield to have been one of the witnesses for Hastings of Elsing in the celebrated Plea of Arms (9 Henry IV.), but he produces no authority. He died A.D. 1420, and his will is exclusively devoted to provisions for pious uses. Sibilla,⁹ his second wife, and William Paston, "the good judge," being principal executors; and his grandson, according to Blomefield, only eleven years old, his only male representative.

The boy, in after years, lived to be the fourth Sir William, twice married, and four times Sheriff of Norfolk.

⁹ Sir William and Sibilla both died within the year, and their wills are at Norwich (*Reg. Hirning*). The latter bequeaths money for the repair of Burnham Thorp and other churches, including Beeston, where she lies by her first husband. As they make the Rector of Burnham their executor, and, in addition to a specific legacy, leave a residuum for pious uses for the good of their souls, we may presume that to them we are indebted for the beautiful Perpendicular work which illustrates our memoir.

As the father of two families, he also saw his children¹ connected with the best Norfolk families, of whom notices and anecdotes occur frequently in the *Paston Letters*. The life of a "man of worship" in these our Eastern Counties could not fail to be productive of much stirring incident. We find him, aged forty, Commissary² of the Duke of Suffolk, son of that William de la Pole who negotiated the marriage of Henry VI. with Margaret of Anjou, and who, having basked for a few years in the royal sunshine, paid dearly for his ambition by lying, a headless corpse, on the sands of Dover, coldly recompensed at last by a monument³ in the church of Wingfield, contiguous to his fortified residence. The appointment of Calthorp as his Commissary is registered by Blomefield, but merely as a dry fact from *Vitis Calthorpiana*, and, but for the *Paston Letters*, this is all we might have known of Sir William's public life. These valuable documents are now fully edited, with careful and explanatory notes, by Mr. James Gairdner of the Public Record Office, and they come conveniently to our aid in several curious particulars. One of these (Letter 391) raises a question on a date of Blomefield's by telling us that "Calthorp was inbilled" for Edward's coronation day, June 28th, 1461, which was three years

¹ A.D. 1469. "8 Edward IV., Pateat univ^s q^d nos Will. Calthorp de Ludham mil., Joh. Calthorp fil. ejusdem Will. arm., Richard Welbie de Moulton in Lincoln, Eliz. uxor ejus filia p'deti Will. Calthorp et Will. Gurney, arm., et Roger Townsend de Raynham, generos." With Fermor Calthorp.—*V. C.*

² A.D. 1449. "Will. Calthorp, arm., Locumtenens et Commissarius generalis nobilissimi et potentissimi Ducis Dom. Will. Ducis Suff. et Comitibus Pembroch, et mag. Camerar, Angliæ, Hiberniæ, et Aquitanie durante minore etate Dom. Hen. Ducis Exon, filii et heredis Dom. Joh. nuper Ducis Exon, 27 Hen. VI." With Jas. Calthorp of Basham.—*V. C.*

³ The effigy attributed to Duke William among the De la Pole monuments represents, apparently, a knight of a much earlier period. The brasses have been all abstracted, but beneath one of their matrices the unfortunate statesman most likely occupies a grave.

subsequent to his second shrievalty, at which Blomefield implies knighthood. He had perhaps gained time in order to save his pocket; but, as a loyal Yorkist, he had sent up his retainers, "spere and bowes with them," after the battle of Wakefield (1460), and was, next year, one of a party commissioned by the Duke of Norfolk to convoy victuals and ordnance from Newcastle to Warkworth Castle, which was occupied by Lord Warwick and threatened by the Scots (*Paston Letter*, 464). When the king visited Norfolk, where "he had ryght good cher and gret gyftys,"⁴ we find Sir William in the retinue of the Duke of Gloucester, afterwards Richard III., riding past Drayton Lodge on the royal progress from Norwich to Walsingham. The *Paston Letter*, 602, takes us behind the scenes, and gives us an amusing insight into the means employed for getting at Sir William's motives for preferring the Rivers and Scales party to that of the Duke of Norfolk on this occasion. But the true motive, after all, is not far to seek. The presence and countenance of royalty is always more or less attractive:—

"Vultus ubi tuus
Affulsit populo, gratior it dies,
Et soles melius nitent."

And the ride from Norwich to Walsingham in the suite of the royal pilgrim naturally paved the way for an honour which was conferred subsequently, when the king's thanks were conferred on Sir William for his conduct in dealing with the Norwich rioters.

Sir William died, aged eighty-five, at his Norwich residence in the parish of St. Martin's at Palace. This

⁴ Privy Seals, tested at Norwich and Walsingham, June, 21st, 1469 (*Paston Letters*, 612). The lithograph at the close of this memoir illustrates a minor incident of this Walsingham pilgrimage, but is of sufficient importance to require an independent notice.

mansion, known as Berney's Inn, had been purchased a few years previously from the executors of Joan Lady Bardolf. To this may be attributed the decay and probable demolition⁵ of the Burnham manor-house, where he had written one of his last letters, catalogued as No. 2002 in the Appendix to the Paston correspondence. He had issue by his first marriage a son and (P) two daughters; but much later in life he contracted a second marriage with Elizabeth, daughter and coheir of Sir Miles Stapleton, and had with her the cream of the Stapleton manors, including their pet places of North Morton in Berks, and Ingham,⁶ their chief residence, and a family burial-place in Norfolk. She lived long enough to contract two or (as some say) three subsequent marriages; first, with a namesake and relation (see *Biog. Brit.*) of Sir John Fortescue, Chief Justice of Henry VI., author of *De Laudibus*, &c., and last, with the High Admiral, Sir Edward Howard, Lord Scroop,⁷ according to the *Vitis Calthorpiana*, being interposed between them. She left by Sir William a numerous progeny of Calthorps,⁸ at the head of whom stood Sir Francis, who naturally inherited Ingham and the bulk of his mother's manors. He also, in his turn, married two wives, both of them Elizabeths; but as the first brought him no issue, he cast about for an expedient,

⁵ "Cosin Philip" to have all "that remaineth at my place at Burnham."—Sir William's will, 1494.

⁶ *Norfolk Archaeology*, vol. viii.

⁷ The Lord Scroop marriage is probably fabulous; and, as to the order of the other two, Blomefield is in difficulties, and even contradicts himself by giving a different version under the Ingham and Calthorpe parishes. Neither could the happy bridegroom have been the Judge himself, who in 1425 was already a Governor of Lincoln's Inn (see *De Laudibus*) and therefore at least ninety at the time of the pretended marriage. I am indebted to Dr. Jessopp for the dates which confirm the above conclusion, and are inserted in the Pedigree.

⁸ Norris mentions four other sons, Richard, George, John, and Thomas, who died young.

in concert with his wife (a Wyndham of Crownthorp), whereby the half-blood at least of Stapleton might attend upon the Ingham inheritance. Accordingly in 1535, being still childless, and she living, he became one of the parties to a remarkable contract which is recorded at length in his inq. p. m., 1544, and as it afterwards gave occasion to a "cause célèbre," and may still give occasion to some curious reflections, no apology is needed for abstracting somewhat fully its main intentions.

The indenture, dated January 16th in the 26th of Henry VIII. (1535) is tripartite, between Francis Calthorp, knight; Edward Calthorp his nephew, called "Cosyn and heyre apparent" in the document; and Edmund Wyndham of Weybread. It recites that Sir Francis and Edward "asketh for a marriage between Edmonde, son and heyre apparent of the said Edward, and Elizabeth Wyndham, one of the daughters of the afore-named Edmund Wyndham;" and it proceeds to covenant that "Edmonde Calthorp" (being then aged nine) "shall, before the feast of St. Michael, 1540" (which was within six years afterwards) "marry Elizabeth Wyndham after the law and custom of God's church, if the said Elizabeth will thereto condescendingly agree; and if the said Edmonde happen to decease before marriage, &c.," that then his next brother Richard, under like conditions, shall marry her "in likewise before he come to the age of fifteen years." Consequent on these intentions the estates vested in trustees with the usual reversions and remainders. But hardly was the ink dry before a speedier succession was found to be attainable, and it upset the whole bargain. "In the next year after that," 27 Henry VIII. (we quote Dyer, *Reports*) the dame Elizabeth Calthorp died. After whose death Sir Francis took to wife Elizabeth Berney, and had issue by her one William Calthorp" (living 16 Elizabeth, when Dyer wrote), "and after

this Sir Francis died ; and the said Edmond and William Calthorp both survived, and no marriage ever came off between Edmonde Calthorp and Elizabeth Wyndham."

On the above premises arose this question : " Whether their uses always continued, or were determined,—so that the said William Calthorp, as son and heir of Sir Francis, ought to enter as in fee simple in possession from his father,—or that the said Edward Calthorp and his heirs in tail, as in remainder, after the decease of Sir Francis, should enter, and enjoy the estate by virtue of indenture, fine, and recovery aforesaid, or not—was determined in law upon the evidence given in an "*Ejectione firmæ*." It was argued at bar, not at bench. But it seems that the case is hard for William Calthorp, the son of Sir Francis." Thus far Dyer the reporter ; and in this view of the case, without entering on the legal argument, the unprofessional reader may well agree. But in a different sense it would seem that after all the case was *hardly* settled, for it was not until 18 Elizabeth, some years after, that a final award was made, and the title redeemed by money payment from the Calthorp lineal heirs to the coheirs of Edward Calthorp. Meantime the Woodhouses of Waxham were slowly absorbing by purchase the adjoining manors. In 1535 Stalham Hall and fifty acres were sold to them by Edward and Thomasine for "a hundred marcs of silver," (*Pedes Finium*, Mich. 27 Henry VIII.) and Ingham itself (according to Blomefield) very soon followed.

During the protracted length of the above legal process, Sir Philip Calthorp, as heir in the direct line, had succeeded to his grandfather in the occupancy of Ingham, and was thus keeping warm the old seat of the Stapletons. There he made his will ; and there, in the event of his decease, rather than at Norwich, he desired to lay his bones. But as the tree fell so it ultimately lay ; and from 1535 the history of the family belongs more to Norwich than either

to Burnham or Ingham. They could well dispense with the latter, and equity, if not law, would point to its surrender; and from his wealth of manors Sir Philip could find no difficulty in making a selection for posterity. The beautiful village of Erwarton, on the estuaries of the Orwell and Stour, and over against Harwich, had come as an ancestral possession originally from the Bacons, and this he bequeathed accordingly, with other Suffolk manors, to Philip his elder son. The Burnham house, moreover, had by this time gone its way; for long ago his grandfather, Sir William, had bequeathed certain moveables, described as "all the stuff of household which remaineth at my place at Burnham." The acquisition of Berney's Inn had thus enabled the grandfather to dispense with the encumbrance of a dilapidated country mansion; and, in succeeding to a city residence, the grandson found occasion to indulge in a civic splendour which was more in accordance with his taste, and better suited to his opulence.

In the matter of dress especially he affected an unusual magnificence. Camden has related of him an anecdote, that "he sent to a Norwich tailor as much French cloth as would make him a gown to wear on state occasions. But it happened that one John Drake, a shoemaker, coming by chance into the shop, liked it so well that he went and bought of the material as much for himself, enjoining the tailor to make it of the same fashion. The knight, being informed of this, commanded the tailor to cut the gown as full of holes as ever his shears could make it. When Drake saw it, he confessed it was made of the same fashion, but vowed that he would never be of the gentleman's fashion again."

The fashion of these gowns is seen in our sepulchral brasses, but the chief item of their cost was not in the cloth, but in the trimming. They passed from father to son as a very frequent inheritance; and possibly the above

gown, or one very like it, was the subject of Sir Philip's bequest to his son and namesake, in these precise terms, a few years afterwards. "Item. I give and bequethe to Dame Jane, my well-beloved wyeff, all my jewelles and hyrs, and all hyr apparel, cheynes, rynges of gold, perles, stones, beades, &c., except only a bed of crymesyn velvet and russet damaske embrowdered with myn armes, and my gown of black velvet furred with martryns,⁹ which I give and bequethe to my son Phylpe." "Also excepte a gown of black velvet furred with budge¹ which I give unto my son Henry." And while on the subject of legacies, we may also notice one of the above-named "Dame Jane" Calthorp, by birth a Blenerhasset, who bequeaths to Sir Edward Warner, Knight, her sister's son, "nine peccs (pieces) of tapstory of the Story of Queene Hester;" which pieces, being in reality stamped leather, are still to be identified, having hung in good preservation as a treasured heirloom, for above two centuries, in a room at Walsingham Abbey.

We have seen that a coming event, the failure of male issue, had cast its shadow on the closing days of the life of Sir Francis Calthorp at Ingham. And now a like impression troubled the mind of Sir Philip, who laments in his last will that his son Philip "had been of long time married, and yet he had 'noon' issue male of his body." His lamentation was premature, for he had other sons by his second marriage, but probably the state of their health had caused some misgivings, as they died soon after him. But if compensation might be found in the attractions of a granddaughter, he had it in the Lady Elizabeth.

"Unica quæ fuerat Calthropi filia, cujus
Nomen perfelix Elizabetha fuit.
Hic jacet hoc tumulo, mulier tot laudibus aucta,
Ut vix speremus posse videre parem."

⁹ Martryns, i.e., sables.—*Minsheu*.

¹ Budge, i.e., Lambe's furre.—*Minsheu*.

This lady had proved true to the traditions of her family by contracting three marriages, and the third husband felt it his duty to record, with all the boast of heraldry, what beauty and wealth had given him. Her monument is well preserved in the church of St. Martin's at Palace, Norwich, which will well repay a half-hour's examination. She carried the Calthorp manors to the family of her first husband, by whom she left issue, Sir Philip Parker, who inherited about 1578.

We have already made mention of the village of Erwarton, where the last Sir Philip Calthorp lived and died. His avenue of oaks are now venerable pollards, terminated by the ruins of a Jacobean gateway, and manor-house restored by the Parkers, and built apparently on the old lines. His "ambling nags and geldings" were left as prime favourites to various friends, but neither in his will nor in the registers does the name of Calthorp appear. The Parkers enjoyed the place for several generations, and in 1736 Sir Philip Parker Long recorded his descent from "Amata" Boleyn,² the wife of the last Calthorp, and mother of the Lady Elizabeth, in a carefully-prepared memorial tablet affixed to the church wall.

A well-authenticated tradition of heart burial in the north wall exists in the parish. It was credited, at the time, as the heart of Queen Anne Boleyn, but in all probability was the heart of a nameless Crusader, whose effigy still remains among other monuments of ancient date.

The Pedigree which heads this memoir is by no means exhaustive, but is intended to enable the reader more easily to follow the narrative. In this respect it forms a contrast to many of the Calthorp pedigrees, which appear to have been projected in the idea of exhibiting an abundance of

² In mediæval records the names Amy and Anne must be taken interchangeably. The Latin forms, Amia and Anna, are absolutely undistinguishable.

heraldic decoration, superfluous and without proof. And indeed the genealogist is in danger of rising from the study of the Calthorp pedigrees with his faith shaken in pedigrees generally. To say nothing of the confusion which lies on the surface of Blomefield, who makes the first Sir Philip marry his daughter-in-law (Bl. *Norfolk*, iii. 730), and gives to the second a son of the same name, in spite of the direct evidence of the wills above quoted,—we may refer to the contradiction of the Norris and Le Neve Pedigrees; the former of which gives to the first Sir Philip a Boleyn and a Blenerhasset for his wives. The above are but a sample of numerous discrepancies. They have invited a careful reference to original documents, which the writer ventures to hope may bear the test of inquiry; fearful lest, having suggested a mote in the eyes of others, he may be liable, in hands more experienced, to be convicted of a beam in his own.

Since the above was in type we have discovered an original document among the Pleas of the Crown, enrolled *Coram Rege*, of rather an unusual character. We extract it as it stands, not only as an incident in our county history, but as containing a charter of much interest in evidence of the high estimation in which the subject of it was held by his sovereign.

CORAM REGE ROLL, 4 HENRY IV.

M 1 REX.

Rottus plitoꝝ corā dño Rege apud Westm̃ de Termino S̃ci
Hillarij anno RR̃c Henrici Quarti post conquestū
Quarto. W. GASCOIGNE.

Adhuc de ũmino S̃ci Hillār.

REX.

Norff. P̃r fuit Coroñ Coñ p̃d̃ci qđ non omit̃ ũ quin
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dist^r Wiſſm Calthorþ Chr ꝛ at Juſ prius inpanellatⁱ in^l dñm Regem et Henricū nunc Ep̃m Norwici p omēs terr⁹ ꝛc. Et qđ de exitⁱ ꝛc. Et qđ herent corpa eoꝝ coram dño Rege ad hunc diem sciit in Octabⁱ S^ci Hillaꝝ vbicumq; ꝛc ad faciend^m quand^m (sic) in^l dñm Regem et p̃fa^t Ep̃m de quibusdam Artictis sup ip̃m p̃sen^t. Et modo ad eundm diem veñ p̃dcus Wiſſms Calthorþ p districcōem ei in hac pte fcām in ppria psona sua. Et sup hoc dictū est eidm Wiſſmo p Curiam qđ manū suam ponat ad librum ad iurandū de ṽtate in hac pte dicend^m qui dicit qđ non intendit qđ dñs Rex ip̃m ad hoc faciend^m oñare velit quia dicit qđ idm Rex de gr̃a sua sp̃āli concessit ip̃i Wiſſmo qđ ip̃e ad totam vitam suam hanc heret libtatem vidit qđ non ponet^r in assis iuratis attinctis inquisiōib; seu recogniōib; aliquib; licet tangant ip̃m Regem vel heredes suos. Et pfert hic in Cuꝝ lras dñi Regⁱ patentes p̃missa testificantes que sequunt^r in hec ṽba.

Henricus dei gr̃a Rex Angl ꝛ Francie ꝛ Dñs Hibn omib; Balliuis ꝛ fidelib; suis ad quos p̃sentes lre puehnt saſſm Sciatis qđ de gr̃a ñra sp̃āli concessimus p nob ꝛ heredib; ñris ditco ꝛ fideli ñro Wiſſmo de Calthorþ Chiualer qđ ip̃e ad totam vitam suam hanc heat libtatem vidit qđ non ponat^r in assisis iuratis attinctis inquisiōib; seu recogniōib; aliquib; licet tangant nos vel heredes ñros. Et qđ non fiat maior vicecomes Escaetor Coronator Justiciarius pacis seu laboratoꝝ aut alius Justiciarius quicumq; Collector assessor taxator Supuisor aut cont^m rotulator decimaꝝ quintaꝝ decimaꝝ seu alicuius altius subsidij quote siue taxe cuiuscumq; nob concessa aut nob vel heredib; ñris concedende arraiator Triator siue ductor hōim ad arma hobelarioꝝ vel sagittarioꝝ nec alius Officiarius Balliuus aut Minister ñri vel heredum ñroꝝ quicumq; cont^m voluntatem suam. Et ideo vob mandamus qđ ip̃m Wiſſm cont^m hanc concessiōem ñram non molestetis in aliquo seu grauētis.

In cuius rei testiōm has l̃ras fieri fecimus patentes.
 Teste me ip̃o apud Westm̃ vicesimo nono die Junij
 anno regni ñri sc̃do.

Profert eciam quoddam bre dñi Regis claus Justic̃ hic direct̃
 de non molestand̃ p̃fať Wiffm cont̃ tenorē l̃raz dñi Regē
 p̃dcaz. Cuius dat̃ est apud Westm̃ xvj die Novemb̃r anno
 dñi dñi Regē nunc quarto Pretextu quaz l̃raz idm̃ Wiffms
 petit ipm a Jur̃ p̃dca exoñari ꝛc. Et inspect̃ l̃ris dñi Regē
 p̃dcis cons̃ est qđ p̃dcus Wiffms de jurata p̃dca exoñet̃ et
 qđ eat inde sine die ꝛc.

Moulds for Casting Pilgrims' Signs :

FOUND AT WALSINGHAM AND LYNN.

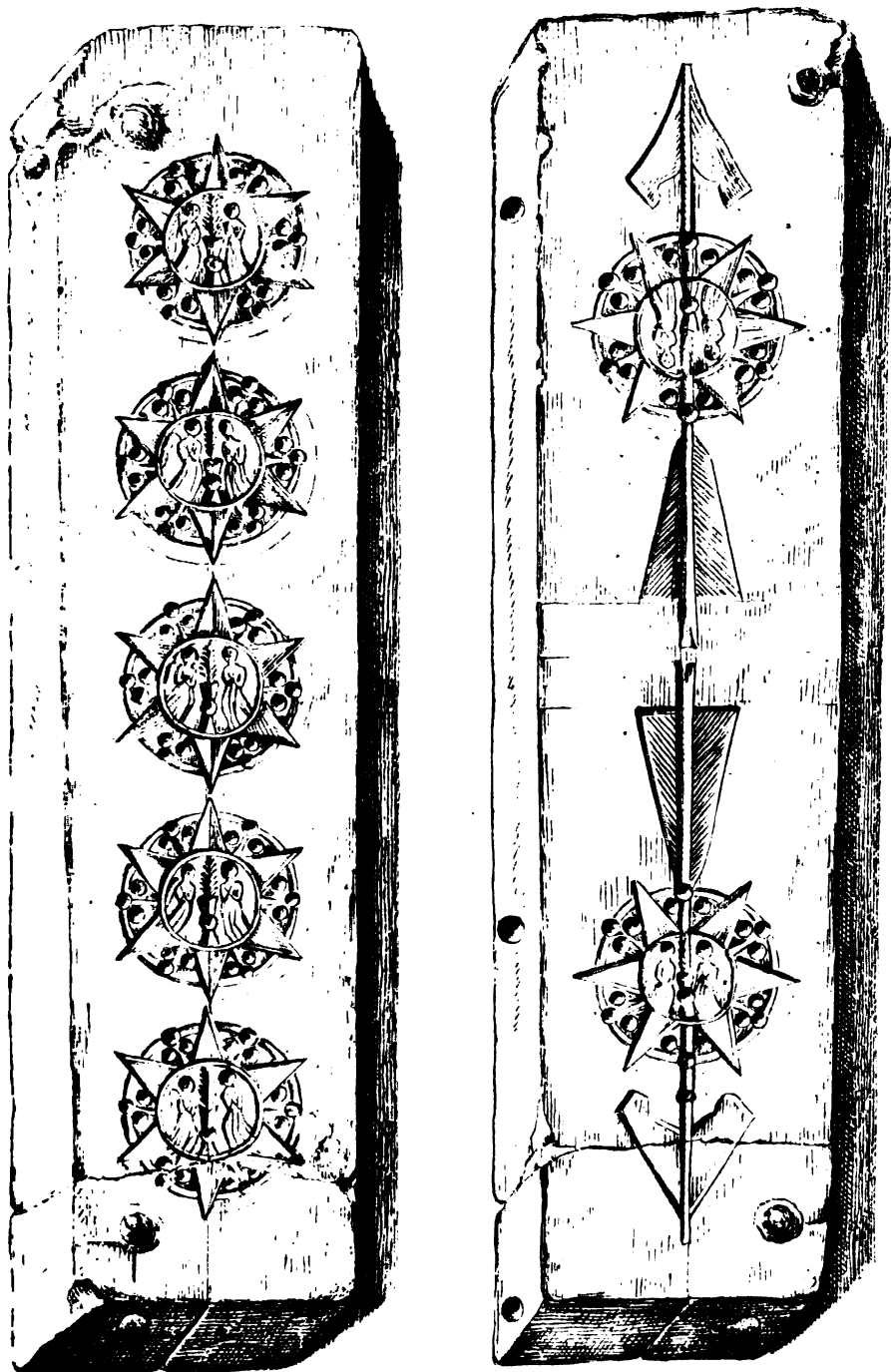
COMMUNICATED BY

THE REV. C. R. MANNING, M.A.,

HON. SEC.

THE discovery at Walsingham of the interesting object represented on the opposite page was reported to the writer of the memoir preceding; and although very opportune by way of illustration to his paper, it calls for a special notice and careful delineation. Mr. Lee-Warner says, "It was found in removing the débris of a group of ancient buildings which had occupied a plot of ground adjacent to the parish church for above two centuries, but was required for the recent enlargement of the churchyard. The name of 'Old Bridewell Yard' long ago marked the use to which they were once applied, and carried them back at least to the days of Howard the Philanthropist, who records in his journal a visit to them on his errand of mercy."

The object will be recognized as a mould for casting *signacula*, or leaden tokens. Its material is the white lias, a stone extensively used in the western counties, and quarried from the lower beds of that formation. It appears to be only a portion of a larger stone, probably a square, to cast twenty or more of the leaden signs at once. This is evident



MOULD FOUND AT WALSHINGHAM, NORFOLK.



by the existence of a mortise in the top and bottom corner of one side only, the corresponding stone having had tenons to fit the holes and keep the mould in position. On one side the mould presents designs, five in a row, of a star of six points within a circle, containing a small representation in the centre of the Annunciation, viz., the Blessed Virgin and the Angel, as usual, on each side of a lily-pot. On the other side it has two similar stars or circles, each held by an arrow. These, when cast in lead, would form a *broche*, to be worn on the dress or in the hat, as signs that the wearer had visited the shrine where they were supplied, and as efficacious charms and preservations from evil. In Erasmus's colloquy, *Peregrinatio Religionis ergo*, is the following reference to these "signs" in connection with Walsingham: ¹—

Menedemus. But what means this? You are covered with scallop shells, stuck all over with leaden and tin figures, adorned with straw necklaces, and a bracelet of serpents' eggs.

Ogygius. I have visited S. James of Compostella; and on my return, the seaside Virgin, so famous with the English; or, rather, I have revisited her, for I had seen her three years before.

Men. From curiosity, I suppose?

Og. Nay, from motives of religion.

• • • • •

Men. But what fate carried you back into England?

Og. A wonderfully favourable wind invited me thither, and I was almost pledged to the seaside Virgin, that I would revisit her after two years.

Men. What to seek of her?

Og. Nothing new: only those usual petitions, the health of my family, the increase of my estate, a long and happy life in this world, and eternal happiness in the next.

Men. Could not our own Virgin Mother bestow the same? She has at Antwerp a far more magnificent church than at Walsingham.

Og. I do not deny she might; but in various places she grants various things, whether because she so thinks proper, or as she is

¹ Nichols's *Pilgrimages of Walsingham and Canterbury*, p. 1.

kind, because in this she accommodates herself to our desires
It is the most celebrated place throughout all England, nor could you easily find in that island the man who ventures to reckon on prosperity, unless he yearly salute her with some small offering, according to his ability.

In *Piers Ploughman's Vision* it is said of the pilgrim :—

A bolle and a bagge
He bar by his syde,
And hundred of ampulles
On his hat seten,
Signes of Synay.
And shelles of Galice,
And many a crouche on his cloke,
And keyes of Rome
And the vernycle bi-fore
For men sholde knowe
And se by hise signes
Whom he sought hadde.

• • • • •
Ye may se by my signes
That sitten on myn hatte,
That I have walked ful wide,
In weet and in drye,
And sought good seintes
For my soules helthe.²

The author of the *Supplement to Chaucer's Canterbury Pilgrims* illustrates the same subject :—

Then, as manere and custom is, *signes* there they bought
For men of contré should know whome they had sought,
Each man set his silver in such thing as they liked,
And in the meen while the miller had y-pikid
His bosom ful of signys of Canterbury *brochis*.

And, again :—

They set their signys upon their hodos, and some oppon their capp,
And sith to the dyner-ward they gan for to stapp.

² Wright's *Vision of Piers Ploughman*, line 3541

A number of these "signs," found in the Thames, are engraved by Mr. C. Roach Smith in his *Collectanea Antiqua*,³ together with others from Abbeville in France, of which Dr. Rigollet of Amiens published an account in 1837. They represent, in a rude way, illustrations of the saints and the shrines which were the most favourite resort of pilgrims, especially St. Thomas of Canterbury, and St. John the Baptist of Amiens. The custom of such usages is very ancient, and goes back to heathen times, as witness the analogous silver shrines of Diana at Ephesus, in Acts xix. 24.

The number of "signacula" or tokens of this class required at the different shrines must have been very great, and the method adopted for their multiplication by casting batches of them in lead in stone moulds, made the supply very easy. The richer classes would wear ornaments of gold and silver, which, by a statute of Edward III., was prohibited to yeomen. Another example, now in the Lynn Museum, very similar to this Walsingham one, was found some years ago in dredging the river Ouse at Lynn, of which an illustration is also here given, through the kindness of Mr. W. H. Taylor of Lynn.

On one side is the device of a wheel of three concentric circles, pierced by a large arrow, for fastening to the wearer; and on the other a very pretty monogram, apparently ih̄c, with trefoiled ornaments at the points of the letters. Both this and the Walsingham mould are of the fifteenth century. A great many leaden "signs" have been dredged up at Lynn, near the course of the ferry-boat in the river. Some of these are probably as early as the fourteenth century. One is part of a triptych, with

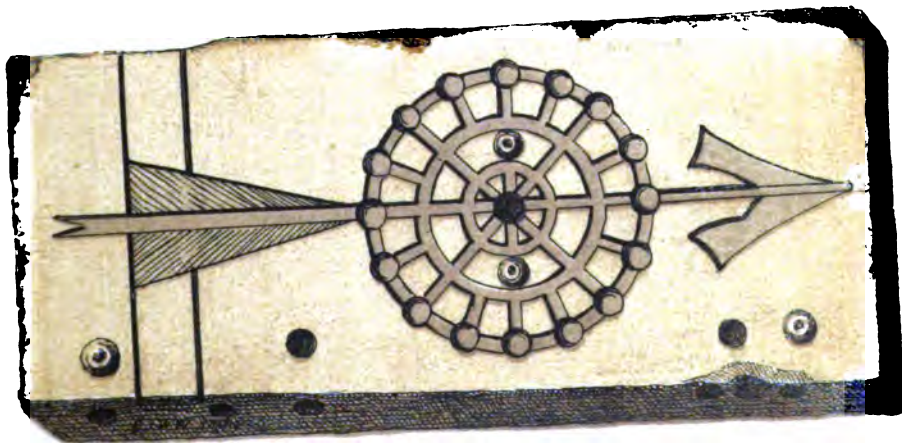
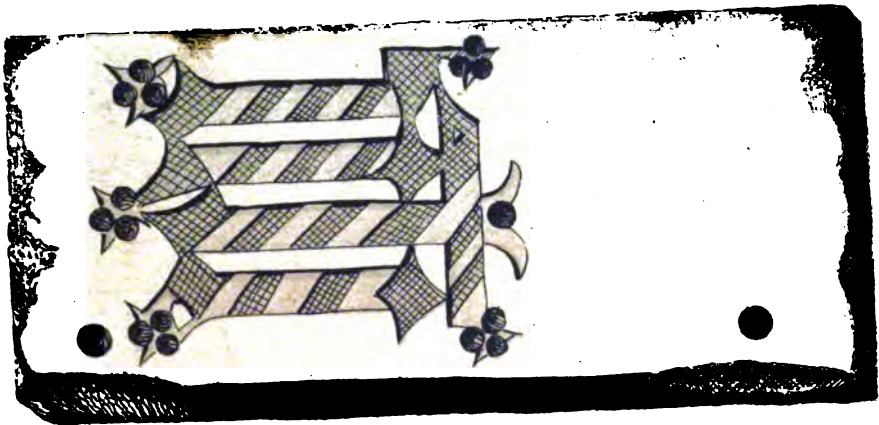
³ Vol. i. 81; ii. 43; iv. 166, giving an Ordinance of the Convent of St. Maximin in Provence, 1354, respecting them.—Wright's *Archæological Album*, p. 19. For French "signs" see also De Caumont's *Bulletin Monumental*, vol. xix.

scriptural subjects under canopies; another represents Edward the Confessor giving his ring to the beggar, the figures standing within a moon or crescent; others, saints in canopies or shrines; the crucifixion, the annunciation, an ornamented heart, crowns, circles, crosses; and one has an arrow through it. Three of these are illustrated in the accompanying plate. These were all formed like fibulæ, with an acus, or some means of fastening; and the character of the ornament is so much the same throughout them, especially in the recurrence of trefoils, &c., in raised knobs, that the supply must have arisen from a common mint, the moulds being probably worked at Walsingham.⁴

In a paper read at the Lynn meeting of the Society in 1850, by the late M. W. Taylor, mention is made of a mould for casting pilgrims' signs found at Gaywood. The little leaden toys made for children are still cast in a similar way.

Since writing the above, I have ascertained the existence of two or three more moulds. Two are illustrated in Brent's *Canterbury in the Olden Time*, second edition, p. 51. The first represents an ecclesiastic on horseback giving benediction, and seems as early as the twelfth century; the second is a figure of a saint, apparently in torture. These, with another for casting four objects, (*Archæologia*, xliii. 164) were found at Canterbury.

⁴ A mould for casting silver fibulæ, fifteenth century, is engraved in *Archæologia*, xiv. 275, plate 18. It was found at Ashill, Norfolk, in 1798.



PILGRIMS' SIGNS & MOULD FOUND AT LYNN, NORFOLK.



NOTICE

OF

Roman Coins found at Baconsthorpe.

COMMUNICATED BY

MISS M. A. HOGG.

IN June, 1878, whilst some men were ploughing a field adjoining Baconsthorpe Hall, belonging to J. T. Mott, Esq., of Barningham, Norfolk, the plough struck against an earthenware jar or "olla," of greyish hue, breaking all the upper part of it into many pieces, and disclosing a number of coins, which were appropriated by the finders at once, before Mr. Mott was aware of the discovery; so that no definite account of the *whole* of the hoard can be given. The vase was about fourteen inches in height, and its greatest circumference thirty-six inches; the interior shows horizontal marks of the lathe, and is, like the exterior, ash-coloured on the surface. The body of the ware is composed of a strong, coarse, and rather gritty red paste, here and there streaked with black from insufficient firing. It is estimated that about 9,000 coins were found, all either

billon or brass. The following is a list of the twenty-five emperors who were represented in this hoard, viz. :—

Gordianus Pius III.	Æmilianus.	Postumus (the son).
Philip I.	Valerianus.	Laelianus.
Philip (the son).	Mariniana.	Victorinus.
Otacilia.	Gallienus.	Marius.
Trajanus Decius.	Salonina.	Claudius Gothicus.
Etruscilla.	Saloninus.	Quintilius.
Herennius Etruscus.	Quietus.	Aurelian.
Gallus.	Postumus.	Tetricus.
Volusianus.		

but it is impossible to give accurate information of the number of coins of each emperor, as they have been so dispersed. There are no new types among those retained by Mr. Mott, although many specimens are of considerable rarity, such as the coins of Herennius Etruscus, Mariniana, Marius, Laelianus, &c. The coins of Gordian III., Valerian, Gallienus, Postumus, and Victorinus are by far the most numerous. Very many specimens, especially those of the earlier emperors, at which period the coinage was not so debased, are in such a good state of preservation that when the verdigris was removed from the surface the coin was as perfect as if just issued from the mint.

Among the finest specimens are a denarius of Philip I., having for reverse the inscription AETERNITAS . AVGG ., a boy seated on an elephant; a Valerian, the reverse VOTA . ORBIS ., with two Victories facing, holding a shield inscribed s.c. before a palm tree. But the earliest coin of this hoard is a denarius of Gordian III., having for the reverse type the inscription P . M . T . R . P . II . COS . P . P . and a figure of Pax. This coin was issued in A.D. 238, the first year of the reign of Gordian.

The coins to which the latest date can be assigned are two billon denarii of Aurelian, having for the reverse types PROVIDENT . AVG . with figure of Providentia, and

SECVRITAS . AVG . with figure of Securitas. So far as we have been able to ascertain, there has been no other coin of this emperor or of any later one found in this collection.

The date of the burial of this treasure is about A.D. 271-272, and the period over which the whole hoard extends does not embrace more than thirty-four years, *i.e.*, from A.D. 238 to A.D. 271.

From what we gather from the history of the coinage of Aurelian, and of the reforms he effected, or endeavoured to, in the monetary system of Rome, we know that these two coins of Aurelian just described were issued quite at the commencement of his reign, not later than 271 or 272; as the later denarii of Aurelian are distinguished not only by a difference of type, but by a striking transition in style, being executed with much care and skill.

By whom, or under what circumstances, this hoard was buried is very difficult to ascertain, almost impossible; for Echard tells us in his *History of England* "that for a period of fifty years no account is to be found of the affairs of Britain during the usurpation of the government here by some of the thirty tyrants, as Lolianus, Postumus, Marius, and Tetricus." But we may conjecture that this hoard formed part of a military chest, and was probably buried at the moment of departure of a body of troops from one locality to another, as in the case of the Blackmoor *find*, which is described by Lord Selborne in the *Numismatic Chronicle*, N. S., vol. xvii. We know that the troops of Tetricus were defeated and entirely dispersed by Aurelian near Chalons in Champagne, and that the few surviving troops fled across the Rhine. Following the course of this river, they may have continued their journey to the sea, and taking ship have crossed over to Britain, and landed on the Norfolk coast; and in order to render pursuit more difficult, the fugitive troops may have continued their flight further into the interior of the country, and in order that

their treasure should not fall into the hands of the enemy, took their usual precaution in such cases of concealing it in the ground.

The following specimens form part of a cabinet of five hundred of the above coins, arranged by Miss Hogg for Mr. Mott. They are selected as presenting rarer reverses than others, according to the useful lists in Akerman's *Descriptive Catalogue of Rare and Inedited Roman Coins*.

GORDIANUS (PIUS) III.

Obv. IMP. CAES. M. ANT. GORDIANVS. AVG. Bust to left; radiated crown.

Rev. P. M. T. B. P. II. COS. PP. Emperor to left, sacrificing at lighted tripod, veiled, dress of flamen; patera in left hand, staff in right.

PHILIP I.

Obv. IMP. PHILIPPVS. AVG. Radiated crown.

Rev. AETERNITAS. AVGG. A boy seated on an elephant.

Obv. IMP. M. IVL. PHILIPPVS. AVG. Radiated crown.

Rev. LIBERALITAS. AVGG. II. Figure holding tessera fumentaria in right hand, cornucopia in left.

OTACILIA.

Obv. MAR. OTACIL. SEVERA. AVG.

Rev. PVDICITIA. AVG. Pudicitia, seated, veil and sceptre.

PHILIP II.

Obv. M. IVL. PHILIPPVS. CAES. Bust to right; radiated crown.

Rev. PRINCIPI. IVVENT. Philip, wearing cuirass, standing to left, holding globe and reversed spear; at his feet captive seated.

TRAJANUS DECIUS.

Obv. IMP. C. M. Q. TRAIANVS. DECIVS. AVG. Bust to right; radiated crown.

Rev. ADVENTVS. AVG. Emperor on horseback to left.

Obv. Same.

Rev. PANNONIAE. Two women standing, holding ensigns.

HERENNIUS ETRUSCUS.

Obv. Q . HER . ETR . MES . DECIVS . NOB . C . Head to right; radiated crown.

Rev. CONCORDIA . AVGG . Two hands joined.

ETRUSCILLA.

Obv. HER . ETRVSCILLA . AVG . Head to right, out of crescent.

Rev. IVNO . REGINA . Juno standing; bird at feet.

Obv. Same.

Rev. FECVNDITAS . AVGG . Female figure standing, with cornucopia; child at her side.

TREBONIANUS GALLUS.

Obv. IMP . C . C . VIB . TREB . GALLVS . P . F . AVG . Head to right; radiated crown.

Rev. ADVENTVS . AVG . Emperor on horseback, to left.

Obv. Same.

Rev. PAX . AETERNA . Peace standing.

Obv. Same.

Rev. PROVIDENTIA . AVGG . Providence standing.

VOLUSIANUS.

Obv. IMP . C . C . VIB . VOLVSIANVS . AVG . Head to left; radiated crown.

Rev. FELICITAS . PVBL . Woman standing, holding caduceus and cornucopia.

ÆMILIANUS.

Obv. IMP . ÆMILIANVS . PIVS . FEL . AVG . Head to right; radiated crown.

Rev. APOL . CONSERVAT . Apollo standing nude, holding olive branch, left hand on lyre.

Obv. Same.

Rev. IOVI . CONSERVAT . Jupiter and the emperor.

VALERIAN.

Obv. IMP . C . P . LIC . VALERIANVS . P . F . AVG . Head to right; radiated crown.

Rev. APOLLINI . CONSERVA . Apollo, nude, standing, holding olive branch and lyre.

Obv. Same.

- Rev.* APOLINI . PROPVG . Apollo standing, fitting an arrow to his bow.
- Obv.* Same.
- Rev.* LIBERALITAS . AVGG . Liberty, seated.
Another *Rev.* Liberty, standing.
- Obv.* Same.
- Rev.* ORIENS . AVGG . The sun, standing.
- Obv.* IMP . VALERIANVS . PIVS . AVG .
- Rev.* GALLIENVS . CVM . EXERC . SVO . Statue of Jupiter-Victor on cippus, on which is inscribed IOVI . VICTORI .
- Obv.* IMP . VALERIANVS . AVG .
- Rev.* SECVBIT . PERPET . Security, leaning on a column.
- Obv.* IMP . VALERIANVS . P . AVG .
- Rev.* TEMPORVM . FELICITAS . Felicity, standing.
- Obv.* IMP . C . P . LIC . VALERIANVS . P . F . AVG .
- Rev.* VOTA . ORBIS . Two Victories; a buckler suspended from a tree, inscribed S . C .
- Obv.* VALERIANVS . P . F . AVG .
- Rev.* ORIENS . AVGG . The sun, running.
Another *Rev.* The sun, standing.

GALLIENUS.

- Obv.* IMP . C . P . LIC . GALLIENVS . AVG . Head to right; radiated crown.
- Rev.* CONCORDIA . [EXER]CIT . Concord, standing.
- Obv.* GALLIENVS . P . F . AVG .
- Rev.* DEO . MARTI . Statue of Mars within a temple.
- Obv.* IMP . GALLIENVS . AVG .
- Rev.* IOVI . STATORI . Jupiter-Stator, standing.
- Obv.* GALLIENVS . AVG . Bust with cuirass.
- Rev.* LEG . IIII . FL . VI . P . VI . F . A lion.
- Obv.* Same.
- Rev.* LIBERO . CONS . AVG . A panther, in exergue B.
- Obv.* Same.
- Rev.* MARTI . PROFVGAT . Mars and a captive.
- Obv.* GALLIENVS . P . F . AVG .
- Rev.* P . M . TR . P . VII . COS . IIII . Mars, marching, with trophy and spear.
- Obv.* IMP . GALLIENVS . AVG . Bust to right; radiated crown.
- Rev.* RESTITVTOR . GALLIARVM . The emperor, raising up a woman.

Obv. IMP . GALLIENVS . P . F . AVG .

Rev. SPES . PVBLICA . Hope.

Obv. GALLIENVS . AVG .

Rev. VICT . GAL . AVG . Three Victories, standing. In exergue v.

SALONINUS.

Obv. VALERIANVS . CAES . Head to right ; radiated crown.

Rev. IOVI . CRESCENTI . The infant Jupiter, riding on a goat.

Obv. P . LIC . VALERIANVS . CAES .

Rev. Same, the child much smaller.

Obv. SAL . VALERIANVS . AVG .

Rev. PRI[NC . IVVENTVTIS .] Figure standing to left.

Obv. DIVO . CAES . VALERIANO .

Rev. CONSECRATIO . Lighted altar.

Obv. Same.

Rev. CONSECRATIO . Saloninus borne on an eagle in flight.

SALONINA.

Obv. SALONINA . AVG . Bust to right, wearing diadem, a crescent behind the shoulders.

Rev. DEAE . SEGETIAE . Statue of goddess Segetia within a temple.

Obv. Same.

Rev. FELICITAS . PVBLICA . Felicity seated.

Obv. Same.

Rev. PIETAS . AVGG . Piety, seated, and two children.

Obv. CORN . SALONINA . AVG .

Rev. CONCORDIA . AVGG . Gallienus and Salonina, standing, hands joined.

LAELIANUS.

Obv. IMP . C . LAELIANVS . P . F . AVG . Head to right ; radiated crown.

Rev. VICTORIA . AVGG . Victory, marching to right, holding palm branch and garland. (Three specimens).

VICTORINUS.

Obv. IMP . C . VICTORINVS . P . F . AVG . Head to right ; radiated crown.

Rev. INVICTUS . The sun ; star in field.

Obv. Same.

Rev. SALVS . AVG . Hygeia to left, with patera and serpent.

MARIUS.

- Obv.* IMP . C . MARIVS . P . F . AVGG . Bust to right; radiated crown.
Rev. CONCORDIA . MILIT . Two hands joined.
Obv. Same.
Rev. SAEC . FELICITAS . Felicity, standing.
Obv. IMP . C . M . AVR . MARIVS . AVG .
Rev. VIRTVS . AVG . Soldier standing to left; right hand on shield;
 spear in left.
Obv. Same.
Rev. VICTORIA . AVG . Victory standing to left, holding palm and
 garland.
Obv. Same.
Rev. Same; Victory marching to left.
Obv. Same.
Rev. Same; Victory, with radiated head, without wings, holding
 palm and garland.

QUIETUS.

- Obv.* IMP . C . FVL . QVIETVS . P . F . AVG . Bust to right; radiated
 crown.
Rev. AEQVTAS . (sic) AVGG . Equity, standing; star in field.

CLAUDIUS GOTHICUS.

- Obv.* IMP . C . CLAVDIVS . AVG . Head to right; radiated crown.
Rev. MARS . VLTOR . Mars, standing to right, trophy and lance.
 (Large brass).

QUINTILLUS.

- Obv.* IMP . QVINTILLVS . Bust to right; radiated crown.
Rev. APOLLI[NI . AVG .] Apollo, standing.

The Chancel of Burgh Church, near Aylsham.

BY THE LATE SIR GEORGE GILBERT SCOTT, R.A., F.S.A.,

COMMUNICATED BY

THE REV. E. T. YATES, M.A.

A FEW years ago a member of our Committee promised our Society a Paper on Burgh-next-Aylsham, and its ancient and interesting church and chancel. His declining health and lamented death have prevented the fulfilment of his wish.¹

The chancel having been in course of restoration under the superintendence of Mr. Phipson, and after designs supplied by Sir Gilbert Scott, I venture to embody some remarks of the latter eminent architect in a short paper, which may be deemed worthy of notice.

So interested was Sir Gilbert in this almost unique specimen (for Norfolk) of Early English architecture that he twice visited our out of the way village in order to make himself acquainted with its various beautiful details. His letter to me says :—

“The chancel is one of peculiar beauty and interest, and, at the same time, one of which it is peculiarly difficult to conjecture the original form and extent.

“The southern side consists, on its upper and principal

¹ The Rev. James Bulwer, died 1879.

level, of a continuous range of beautiful and similar lancet lights, arched within, and absolutely simple without. Its lower stage consists of a continuous arcade standing upon a stone seat. Both stages are of admirable design and beautiful detail. On the opposite or north side of the chancel the design, though at perfect unity with the south side, is, from its circumstances somewhat different. Here the continuous range of windows could not exist, inasmuch as there was a side chapel running alongside of the chancel. This chapel was entered from the chancel by a beautiful arch, breaking through the lower range of arcading about the middle of the present chancel wall. Westward of this arch there remain no ancient windows—one of at least two centuries later than the date of the building has been inserted—but eastward of the arch the arcading of the windows appears again as on the opposite side; but the two remaining arches being alongside of the chapel are blank. Eastward of these, and of the chapel, the chancel still continued, though now destroyed. There is a single jamb partly embedded in the present comparatively modern east wall, which, shewing slightly both within and without, proves that windows similar to those on the opposite or south side here recommenced.

“The stone seat and lower arcading run through the north as through the length of the south wall, excepting only where they are intercepted by the arch leading into the chapel, now destroyed.

“There can be no doubt as to the fact that the chancel, at one time in all probability a church in itself, extended further to the eastward than it does now, as well as further to the westward, as the remains of the arches of the arcading on both sides fully prove; though whatever extension it had in that direction is now cut off by the later nave, built more than two hundred years after the original structure.

"The chancel, as it now stands, was consequently of indefinite extension either way, being in fact a mere frustum cut out of a building whose original length is unknown. It is even unknown whether what exists, with its extensions east and west, was a mere chancel or an entire church, with a side chapel, perhaps becoming more to the west an aisle, on its northern flank.

"To speculate on its length towards the west would probably be fruitless, and to recover that length would be unreasonable, for a good nave of later date (about 1400), but of pleasing design, now adjoins the chancel in that direction.

"Eastward, however, the question is neither hopeless nor unreasonable, though it is a fairly open one whether an investigation should be merely speculative, or its results practically entertained. My consideration of the subject leads me to think it probable that there existed on either side *two* more lancet windows, eastward of those at present remaining. My reason is this: where the chancel is now cut off by the east wall, we have a shaft of the upper and of the lower arcades on either side, nearly one over the other; but the widths of the upper and of the lower arcades are such that, roughly speaking, *two* of one correspond (about) with *three* of the other, and if there was but *one* extra window (and we know that there was *at least* one) there would be room for *one* only of the arches below, with a blank space beyond it. If there were *three* extra windows, there would be room for *four* additional arches below, with a blank space beyond; but if there were *two* extra windows, there would be space for *three* additional arches without a waste space beyond. I hold, therefore, that there were either *two* or *four* more windows on either side, and, taking the more moderate view, I incline to *two*. The extension of the foundations beyond the east wall is indefinite, but does not militate against this view.

"I will add," continues Sir Gilbert, after offering various suggestions for the restoration, "that the architecture of the chancel and of the arch into the former side chapel is of the *finest* character, and of a date not very abundant in the remains of its productions. It is neither Transitional nor developed Early English, but of an intermediate stage between the two. It unites the square abacus, the type of one style, with the round abacus, the type of the other. It is probably of the same date with the work of St. Hugh at Lincoln, dating about 1200. The roof is probably of the same date as the nave."

I will not add any suggestions of my own to this short and interesting sketch of Sir G. G. Scott, which the absence of all traces of *sedilia* and *piscina*, the raising the floor by nearly two feet, the lepers' window in the lower arcading of the south wall, and other minor points, might tempt me to indulge in, only trusting that at some future time further light may be thrown upon the subject, when materials now locked up may be at our disposal.

A Transcript of the Register of the Parish of Burgh.

COMMUNICATED BY

THE REV. E. T. YATES, M.A.

[NOTE.—It has been thought best to give the transcript of this Register in extenso, rather than to make extracts only. Four marriages appear to have been celebrated in the parish in the year 1565, but the entries are so much obliterated that nothing can be made of them.

The Register appears to shew—what Blomefield's account of the parish leaves us to infer—that there was no gentleman's house in the place during the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries.

A few notes are appended, which will hardly be thought superfluous.—A. J.]

Registrum de Borrugh ju ta Aylsham.

Baptiz. matrimon. solemniz. et sepult.

incipit Anno Dñi 1563 Eliz. 5.

Inprimis Gulielmus Tylles filius Gulielmi Tylles Baptiz.
decimo Maii.

Maria Bower filia Rowlandi Bower Baptiz. decimo Junii.

Thomasin Yemes filia Walteri Yemes Baptiz. Vicesimo
Septemb.

Margreta filia Johis Croskill Baptiz. sexto Octob.

Gulielmus filius Gulielmi Starling Baptiz. tertio Januarii.

Año Dñi 1564 Eliz. 6.

Elizabetha filia Johis Algate Baptiz. decimo Maii.
 Thomas servus magŕi Windham sepult. vicesimo sexto Junii.
 Henricus filius Henrici Cocker Baptiz. decimo quinto februarii.
 Susanna filia Jacobi Hawe Baptiz. vicesimo quinto Martii.
 Thomas filius Briggs Baptiz. vicesimo Januarii.

Año Dñi 1565 Eliz. 7.

. [obliterated.]
 Gregorius et Mariana Docket nupti decimo sexto
 Augusti.
 Elizabetha filia Walteri Gemes Baptiz. vicesimo quarto
 decemb.
 — Gedge et Jone Gamblin nupti decimo quinto februar.
 — Alison et Rosa Alison filius et filia Alicie Stubb baptiz.
 decimo septimo februarii.

Año Dñi 1566 Eliz. 8.

Christoferus filius Gulielmi Tylles Baptiz. decimo quinto
 April.
 Anna filia Gregorii Newland Baptiz. vicesimo April.
 Alicia filia Johannis Colles Baptiz. quarto Maii.
 Margreta filia Thome Bellone Baptiz. vicesimo tertio Junii.
 Richardus filius Gulielmi Croskill baptiz. vicesimo primo
 Septemb.
 Simon filius Gulielmi Starling baptiz. sexto Octob.
 Gulielmus filius Henrici Cocker Baptiz. vicesimo tertio Novēb.
 Edmundus filius Richardi Thomson Baptiz. decimo septimo
 Decemb.
 Walterus filius Johis Algate Baptiz. nono Martii.
 Margreta Hawge serva Waltero Gemes sepult. vicesimo
 secūdo Decemb.
 Elizabetha uxor Johis Algate sepult primo Martii.
 Maria Amis filia Agnetis matris sue Baptiz. decimo quinto
 februar.

Año Dñi 1567 Eliz. 9.

Henricus Empson et Alicia Howse nupti erant vicesimo Julii.
Maria Cooke sepult tricesimo Martii Año dñi 1568.

Año Dñi 1568 Eliz. 10.

Walterus Croskill filius Johis Croskill baptiz. vicesimo Aprilis.
Johes filius Jacobi Homes Baptiz. quarto Decemb.
Johes filius Gulielmi Gregoryes Baptiz. vicesimo Januar.
Johes filius Jacobi Homes sepult vicesimo tertio Decemb.
Catarina uxor Johis Gamblin sepult quarto Martii.

Año Dñi 1569 Eliz. 11.

Margreta filia Johis Colles baptiz. decimo quinto Julii.
Richardus filius Frauncisci Valentine Baptiz. duodecimo
Decemb.
Johes filius Jacobi Homes Baptiz. vicesimo secundo Februar.
Georgius Dalye sepult vicesimo sexto Julii.
Johes filius Gulielmi Tylles sepultus septimo Augusti.
Johes Tylles ¹ clericus sepultus vicesimo secundo Februar.

Año Dñi 1570 Eliz. 12.

Gulielmus filius Roberti Ropar Baptiz. tertio Junii.
Johes Langwood sepult decimo quarto Junii.
Robertus filius Gulielmi Tylles Baptiz. decimo septimo
Novemb.
Alicia Amis filia Agnetis matris sue Baptiz. duodecimo
februarii.

Año Dñi 1571 Eliz. 13.

Ame filia Johis Colles Baptiz. octavo Aprilis.
Johes Gamblin et Alicia Clerk nupti erant vicesimo secundo
Aprilis.

¹ [No mention of any such clergyman occurs in Blomefield. It is not improbable that he may have been one of the many clergy ejected from the monasteries by Henry VIII., or one of the chantry priests expelled by Edward VI.]

Clemens filius Johis Croskill Baptiz. vicesimo quarto Aprilis.
 Jokes et Joana filius et filia Johis Gamlin sepult vicesimo
 secundo Januar.

Joana filia Alicie Penitone Baptiz. decimo februarii et sexto.
 Matilda Write sepult decimo quinto februarij.
 Ellena Woodrow sepult vicesimo quarto Januarii.

Año Dñi 1572 Eliz. 14.

Gulielmus filius Gulielmi Croskill baptiz. . . . Junii.
 Maria filia Roberti Ropar sepult dec. . . .
 Jokes Aylmor Baptiz. vicesimo
 Robertus Stibbard et Margeria Gamlin . . . vicesimo Julii.
 Gulielmus Chaplin et Cicilia Riches nupti septimo
 Novemb.
 Gulielmus Chaplin sepultus quinto
 Gulielmus filius Jacobi Homes baptiz. vicesimo Januarii.
 Idem Gulielmus sepult vicesimo primo Januarii.
 Gulielmus filius Valentini Francis baptiz. vicesimo primo
 Februar.

Año Dñi 1573 Eliz. 15.

Gulielmus filius Johannis Gamblin baptiz. secundo Junii.
 Gulielmus filius Johannis Colles Baptiz. primo Novemb.
 Alexander filius Jacobi Homes baptiz. octavo Martii.

Año Dñi 1574 Eliz. 16.

Margeria filia Roberti Ropar Baptiz. tertio Maii.
 Alicia filia Johannis Umphrye baptiz. decimo Maii.
 Alicia Stibbard sepult primo Martii.

Año Dñi 1575 Eliz. 17.

Margreta filia Thome Smith Baptiz. decimo tertio Novemb.
 Edmundus Bonne et Elizabetha Harwood nupti decimo tertio
 Februarii.

Robertus filius Johannis Colles Baptiz. sexto decimo Februarii.
David filius Gulielmi Tylles Baptiz. quarto Martii.

Año Dñi 1576 Eliz. 18.

Johes Staferton et Jana Eliston nupti sexto Maii.
Robertus Ropar sepult tricesimo primo Octob.
Alicia filia Johis Gamblin Baptiz. sexto Julii.
Galfridus filius Richardi Hall Baptiz. tricesimo primo Augusti.
Gulielmus filius Henrici Croskill Baptiz. tricesimo primo Augusti.
Margeria filia Johis Umphrye Baptiz. vicesimo sexto Decemb.
Maria filia Jacobi Homes Baptiz. primo Martii.

Año Dñi 1577 Eliz. 19.

Alicia Umphrye sepult secundo Junii.
Richardus filius Roberti Brickman Baptiz. quarto Augusti.
Thomasin Marion filia Marion matris sue Bapt. xijº Februarii.

Año Dñi 1578 Eliz. 20.

Margeria filia Henrici Croskill baptiz. vicesimo Januarii.
Elizabetha filia Johis Colles Baptiz. quinto Martii.
— filia Valentini Frances Baptiz. duodecimo Martii.
Alicia filia Leonardi Palmer Baptiz. vicesimo iiiº Aprilis.
Nicholaus Park et Elizabetha Croskill nupti . . . Maii.
Robtus Trowse et Joañ Stevnson nupti vicesimo octavo Octob.
[After this date Mr. Yates gives us only extracts.]

Año Dñi 1579 Eliz. 21.

Richus filius Robti Bricknā sepult xº Aug.
Agnes Bricknam uxor predicti Robti sepult iiº Novemb.
Frannces filia Robti Bricknam sepult nono Februarii.
Johes filius Robti Bricknam sepult xiiºº februaryi.
Ellena fillia Robti Bricknam xvº februaryi.

1584.

Anna filia Richi Crofts generosi baptiz.³

1586.

Richus filius Georgii Bell clerici baptiz. 25° Octob.⁴

1587.

Gulielmus Jones nullius filius baptiz. decimo Julii.

1588.

Georgius et Edwardus filii Johis Umphrye baptiz. 15°
Septemb.

Gulielmus Margetson nullius filius sepult 23° Februarii.

1589.

Johes Bell filius Georgii Baptiz. 15° Junii.

Test^r. Georgius Bell cler. et Robt. Brevyter et Johannes Coles.
[Three weddings this year.]

Wibrowe Burton filia Johis baptiz. primo Martii.

1590.

[Three weddings this year.]

1591.

Richus Breviter filius Robti junioris Baptiz. 27° Septemb.

1592.

Marcus Bell filius Georgii Baptiz. 25° Aprilis.

[Two weddings this year.]

1595.

Thomas Tylles et Grace Burges nupti 22° Julii.

Jacobus Bell filius Georgii Baptiz. 17° August.

1597.

Edwardus Fishooke filius Thoñ Baptiz. 22° Januarii.

[About June or July a change of hand.]

³ [Probably of the family of Crofts of Felmingham.]

⁴ [Presented to Burgh, as successor to Green, 1683.]

1599.

Katerina Fishweake Baptiz. 20 Februarii.

Test^r George Bell cler. Robt. Stubbett etAnno Dñi 1603 et primo Regis Jacobi S^{ti}.⁵

William Gant drowned in the ryver of Borough and
Aylsham, was taken up on y^e south syde of the ryver
betwext y^e mylne and y^e weares next Bramton halle &
was buryed in Borough church yeard ye first day of
March.

1606.

Honor Umfra baptiz. 27 Novēbris.

1610 /8, *i.e.*, Jacobi.

Lova Howlett baptiz. 10 Die Junii.

1612.

Johannes Bell et Pleasance Beales nupti 27 die Aprilis.

Fayth Homes sepult 8 Februarii.

1613.

Richardus Bell et Margreta Hargraves nupti 19 Julii.

1616.

Thomas Halet sonne of James Halet sepult 21 Maii.

Henricus Lubbock et Dorithe Coates nupti 25 Septēb.

1617.

Sarai Ashwell filia Frācisci Ashwell baptiz. 16 Aprilis.

Esai Smith sepult 12 Maij.

1619.

Samvell Ashwell filius Francisci Ashwell baptiz. 5 Aprilis.

Thomas Browne et Elyzabeth Boulton nupti 9 Augusti.

Anne Bell y^e wyffe of George Bell cler. sepult 31 Augusti.

James Bell et Elizabeth Hargraves nupti 27 Septēber.

⁵ [It looks as if the worthy parson desired to make it plain that he knew King James was *James the Sixth* of Scotland; unless indeed the abbreviation stands for *Scotia*.]

1620.

Jhon Rycheson & Tēperance Parke was married 15 day
January.

1621.

Thomas Browne was buried y^e xxist day of March.
Jhon Bell son of Jhon Bell was baptised y^e 31 da of Decēber.

1622.

George Bell Clarke & Dorithe Kynge was maryed 20th day
March.

1623.

George Bell sonne of James Bell was baptised first of May.

1624.

Laurāc Burre soñe of Robert was baptised xiii of March.

Anno dñi 1625 Anno Charles primo.

[Fresh hand.] George Bell cleric ^{clarke} (*sic*) minister of this
parishe was buried the 30 of August.

Henry Saers was buried the xx day of March.

1626.

Thomas Bell sonne of James Bell was baptised the xxvj of
March.

John Bur sonne of Robert Bur baptised the xxvj of No-
vember.

Thomasin Realer servant to John Tyles buried the 22 of
March.

Ursula Leedes daughter to William Leedes, clericus, bap-
tized the xii of July.

1628.

John Grime and Ellen Burr were maryed the xviii day of
August.

Francis Housegoe sonne of Edmund Housegoe Baptized the
xvj day of February.

1629.

Mr. Phelipp Mollin and M^r. Martha Leedes were married the xxvij day of August.

Dorothie Leedes daughter of William Leedes, cleř, baptised the viij Januarie.

1630.

William Gurney and Blithe Harrold were married the xxvij day of Sept.

James Bell sonne of James Bell Baptized the 3 day of december.

1631.

M^r. Ursula Leedes widd. buried the xv day of February.

1632.

Thomas Bullin and Fazly Parnell were maried the xv of May.
Amphilis Gambling daughter of William Gambling buried the xxiiij of Januar.

1633.

George Leedes sonne of William Leedes, clericus, Baptized the xv day of April.

1635.

Thomas Hilton sonne of Humphrie Hilton and Margrett his wife Baptized the first day of May.

This year is signed, William Leedes Rect. ibidem.

The marke of x James Bell churchwarden.

1636.

{ William Leedes sonne and daughter of William Leedes,
{ Katerine Leedes cleř, and Ursula his wife Baptised the xvii day of October.

1638.

William Leedes Bachelour of Arts in y^e University of Cambridge haveing been Rector of Burgh juxta Aylesham thirteene yeares and three moneths was buried in y^e chancell of Burgh November the sixteenth day, 1638.

Præstitit officium tibi quod (doctissime Leede)
Consortique tuæ Gillus mihi præstet et alter.

Neth. Gil.

Pedissequæ Gillanæ

Te successorem moneo neminisse relictum

Ub successorem vis neminisse tuam.

Neth Gil

pr. Ar.

Nethanel Gil⁶ M^r. of Arts of Trin. Coll. in Oxon. 1628
& chaplaine to y^e right Ho^{ble} ye Lady Elisabeth Cooke 1635
was by her Honours free donation admitted Rector of

Burgh juxta Aylesham december y^e first day A^o.
domini 1638 Regis Caroli 14. Episcopatus Rich. Mountaguel^o.

Ætatis suæ 32.

Δόξα Θεῷ

⁶ [I conjecture him to have been the son of *Alexander Gill*, who, after being settled in Norwich in 1597, became in 1608 Head Master of St. Paul's School (London), and who was one of the most celebrated pedagogues of his time. He had a son Alexander, who was of *Trinity College, Oxford*, and who for his intemperate language in the Common Room there got into very serious trouble in 1628, and was in great danger of losing his ears; indeed, he was only saved from having the sentence carried out by the regard which Charles I. entertained for his father. The old man died at his post in 1635, and was succeeded by his son Alexander, who was a man of learning, and with a high reputation as a scholar. Nathaniel Gill of the Burgh Register was evidently a man of very exceptional culture and scholarly taste, and his being a member of Trin. Coll., Oxon., seems to point to the relationship indicated above. He has given us so much of his biography in the Pariah Register itself that very little comment is required. He was presented to the living of Burgh in 1638; two years afterwards, viz., 6th November, 1640, the "Grand Committee for Religion" was established, and on the 19th of the following month the work of persecution began. It was not, however, till April, 1643, that the Ordinance for sequestering the estates of "Delinquents" was passed, and Mr. Gill appears to have been one of the first victims. He was fortunate enough to be possessed of some landed property however: hence he calls himself not only "presbyter," but "armiger" and ἀπλόφορος (!), and when the spoilers came he submitted to be robbed, but clung to his cure, and continued to discharge his clerical duties. He must have been a brave and determined man, and, more than that, he must have had the strong regard

1639.

Rounser Harling was buried Jan. 8, 1639.

1640.

Henry y^e sonne of Neth. Gil, Rector, & Mary his wife bapt.
Maii 5.

Baseborne, y^e bastard child of y^e whore Parnell Reade bapt-
tised Jan. y^e first 1640. Baseborne Reade was buried
Jan. y^e 6, 1640.

1641.

Mary-Elizabeth daughter of Nethaniel Gil and Mary his
wiffe was baptized ye 20th of May.

1642.

Franciscus filius Neth. Gil et Mariæ aqua tinctus Octob. 6.
Franciscus filius Robti Jeckes et Katharinæ hydrobapta.
Octob. 9.

Robt. Forman et Susanna Gamblin concarnati Nov. 27, 1642.
Gulielmus Gamblin vermibus esca datus dec. penultima die.
Maria-Elisabetha filia Neth. Gil, Rectoris, Martii 12^o placide
in Domino obdormivit non sine certa spe gloriosæ resurec-
tionis.

1643.

Parnella Reade terra obruta Junii 8.

Richardus filius Jacobi Kendall christianatus Junii 11^o.

and affection of his people, for in the Register, which he appears to have retained in his own possession during the whole of his incumbency, he sets down with a grim sort of pride that he baptized children with the sign of the cross, married people with the ring, and buried them contrary to the "Directory Indirectorie," (!) and according to the Prayer-book "*more meo*." After persisting in this course for eight years, we may conjecture that the malignants made the place too hot for him, for he appears to have retired from Burgh in 1651, and lived at Bungay. In 1663 he was made Vicar of Aylsham, which he seems to have held with Burgh till his death.—Wood's *Ath. Oxon.* (Blisse) ii. 597; iii. 42; Birch, *Life and Times of Charles I.*, i. 403, 427, &c.; Blomefield, vi. 276, 285, 429, 440. The mistake at p. 276 should be corrected 1699 for 1669.]

Thomas filius Henrici Aborne in cōiōē s̄torum⁷ initiatus
9bris 26.

Georgius filius Robti Ash Jordonizabatur 10bris 10 Anno
spreti Regis Caroli et blasphemati Jesu Christi (tryum-
phante⁸ dæmone, Kimbletono, Pymono) tertio παρθινορχιας
(sic) 1643.

Christiana nata Edmundo comite [Earle] Antiochiebatur
10bris 24.

Elizabetha filia Gulielmi Ashwell in albū ecclīæ initiata
Martii 4^{to} 1643.

1644.

Margaretta filia Neth. Gil et Mariæ in albū ecclīā admissa
Maii 7.

Margareta soboles Hittoniana baptizata Maii 19°.

Thomas Allison inhumatust Junii 7°.

Relicta Jōis Safely terræ et corruptioni nupta Junii 25.

Susanna Susannæ et Jōis Watson regenerata Aug. 11.

Relicta Jōis Humprey cæmeteriabatur Aug. 30.

Susanna filia Thomæ Cocke christianabatur Sep. 15.

Xtophorus filius Jōis Colles Xti membrū factus Sep. 29.

Idem ille Xtophorus fato succubuit Novemb. 1°.

Robtus Yaxley et Eleonora Cerle una caro facti Dec. 29.

Neth. Gil quod { $\Theta\epsilon\omega\phi\acute{o}\beta\omicron\varsigma$
 $\varphi\iota\lambda\omicron\beta\alpha\sigma\iota\lambda\epsilon\upsilon\varsigma$ } ecclesia pulsus.

Gulielmus Ashwell ecclīæ Guardianus
pro Jacobo Bell.

Pulsus ab officio Gillus, quod amavit $\delta\iota\alpha\kappa\tau\alpha$

Quodque Deum timuit, pulsus ab officio.

Culpa Dei timor est, culpa est dilectio Regis

Kimboltonus ait, membraque quinque simul.

Sci Christum Dominum Domini Christumque timere

Et duplex vitium culpaque bina fuit.

N. Gil. pr. ar.

⁷ [I.e., communionem sanctorum.]

⁸ [Corrected to *tryumphantibus*.]

A° Dⁿⁱ 1645 Regis Caroli 21°.

Robtus filius Rbti Ash signo crucis baptizatus sicut meus est
mos Apr. 13°.

Hargravii Janam cognomine Scotto Robertus }
Connubio junxit stabili propriam que duavit. } Maii 22°.

Robertus Betts Annaque Cresy cum annulo matrimoniat
9bris 20.

Jacobus Thomæ Cocke Indirectorie (hoc est) more antiquo
(id est) laudabili palam signo crucis baptiz. Jan. 18.

Filia abaptizata Petri Gil sepulta Jan. 25. [Pen struck
through.]

Jōes Jōis Colles secundum Lyturgiam Anglicanam in alvum
ecclīe admissus die supradicto.

Edmundus Vineyard duxit in uxorem Elizabetham Lewcocke
Feb. 16°.

Neth. Gil Esq. preist
served ye cure
John Colles churchwarden
for James Bell.

1646.

Joseph Thomson et Maria Pull concatenati Martii ult°.

Neth. Gil pr. ar. sui ipsius vicegessit
permissu Inferiorum.

Jōis Colles Jacobi Bell substitutus Guard.

A° Dⁿⁱ 1647 Regis (utcunque Judaizati) Coroli 23°.

Edmundus et Elizabetha nati Martha relicta Edmundi
Comitis (a mala avi interjecti) more meo, i.e. antiquo
ecclesiastico, baptizati Aprili 6°.

Edmundus propius nominatus sepultust Apr. 24.

Petri et Christianæ Gil, Christiana, Christianata Ap. 27, 1647.

Neth. Gil *πρεσβύτερος και ἐκλόφης* curæ animarum
inservivit. Ecclesia sine Guardiano.

A° Dⁿⁱ 1648 Regis (adhuc judaizati et incarcerati) Caroli 24.
 Caroli martyris inhumaniter decollati Jan. 30.

January y° 30, 1648, King Charles y° first was murthered
 proh. dolor.

Jões Emmerson et Susanna Leake arctissimo familiaritatis
 jugo conjugati Junii 12.

Mary y° daughter of Peter Gil & Christierne his wiffe bapt.
 9bris 13.

× Rose Ives, nor widdow, nor wiffe, nor maide, buried
 March 18.

Neth. Gil presbyter armiger curæ inservivit adhuc
 sequestratus. Ja. Bell Jo. Tylles Churchwardens.

A° Dⁿⁱ 1649 Regis Caroli 2ⁱ 1°.

Edmund Wright & Mary Gunnel were marriede Julii 3° ut
 probe sēs [sapientes?] intelligent.

N. G. p^r a^r curæ inservivit adhuc seq.

Ja. Bell, Edw. Smith ecclie Guard.

A° Dⁿⁱ 1650 Anarchias 2° R. C. 2. 2.

N. G.

[Six marriages this year, three burials, four baptisms.]

A° Dⁿⁱ 1651 R. C. 2. 3.

1651. Ann, one and twenty weekes, the daughter of Ellen
 Ives, baptized the 31 of March 1651.

1659. Richardus filius Clementis Tylles baptizatus Jan. 8°.
 During the time of Anarchy, till y° Kings happy
 returne I being at Bungay, & not admitted into
 my living, I knew not, I heeded not, w^t was done.

1660. King Charles y° second arrived at London May y°
 29 being his birthday, aged 30 yeares compleat.

Blessed bee God. God bless y° happy instrum^t

General George Munke. Duke of Albermarle.⁹

Neth. Gil. pr. ar. adhuc sequestratus.

⁹ Duke of Albermarle added later.

1660 Regis Caroli 2^{di} 12^o.

May y^e 29 King Charles y^e second arrived at London, being then 30 yeares ould compleat. God and General George Munke restoring him.

Willm. Durant & Winnefred Munnes were contracted June y^e 18.

James Diboult & Thomasin Bentley were contracted June y^e 22.

Neth. Gil (after 17 yeares sequestration, by traytors, rebels, Anabaptists, Quakers, & Præsbyterians) was restored to his Rectory of Burrough & preached on Christmasse day 1660. Δξα Θ.φ.

Rebecca y^e daughter of John Ashwel buried febr. y^e 4th.

George Wood and Francis Rumbolt were maryed February y^e 25th.

Rbt Jecks was buryed March y^e 10th.

Neth. Gil presbyter Armiger curæ inservivit
jam Rector ecclesiæ.

1661. Margareta Burges virgo sexagenaria cæmeteriabatur
Martii 14^o.

Neth Gil Rector.

Guilielmus Parker } ecclesiæ
Edmundus Burr } Guardiani.

1662. Edmundus Bubonis filius eodem die baptizatus sc.
May 19.

Edmundus Burr duxit in uxorem Margaretam Tylles
Maii 26 quo die Matthæo Burr (prædicti fratri)
Rachel Tylles (prædictæ soror) nupsit.

[This year six weddings, three baptisms, one burial.]

1663. Parnel y^e daughter (base borne) of y^e whore Mary
Earle & Wm. Parnel of Alesham bapt. May y^e last.
Prudentiâ Jōis et Elizabethæ Froome, Alyshamensium
bapt. Junii 3^o.

Robertus Edmundi et Margaretæ Burr baptizatus
Octob. 4^{to}.

1663. Robertus filius Edmundi Burr sepultus Jan. 5.
[This year two marriages, six baptisms, six burials.]
1664. Carolus Gil Henrici et Anna baptizatus Aug. 25.
Edmundus Burr, Edmundi et Margareta baptizatust
Martii 19°.
1665. Matthæa Marison 2^a spuria Mariæ Earle meretricis
bap. Sept. 3.
1666. Richardus Goodins sepultust Aug. 16.
[R. Goodings had been Warden in 1663 and 1664.]
1667. Rachel Burr Edmundi et Margaretæ bapt. Martii 25.
Henricus Webster *ἀγαπῶς* sepultust Aprilis 26.
Elizabetha Goodins vidua sepulta Julii 16.
Elisabetha Gil filia Henrici et Annæ bapt. decemb. 25.
[Not signed by rector.]
1668. Robtus Burr Josephi et Annæ bapt. Junii 7°.
Margareta Burr Edmundi et Margaretæ bapt. Jan. 17,
1668.
1669. Neth. Gill, cler. sepultus Apr. 2, 1669.
Dan. Burton R.¹
Thos. Smith & Edm. Burr Ecclesiæ Guard.
1670. Rachel filia Edmundi et Margaretæ Burr sepult.
18 Julii.
[Edmund Burr one of the Churchwardens from
1661—1663, 1669—1677. Two Churchwardens,
1662—1683, then one only.]
1677. Johannes filius Johannis et Eliz. Ker bapt. 24 Mar.
1688. Nathaniel Gill sepult. 18 May.
1692. Edmundus filius Edmundi et Annæ Burr bapt. 25 July.
1693. Rachel Burr sepult. 27 March.
Edmund Burr infans sepult. 1 May.
1694. Rachel filia Edm. et Annæ Burr bapt. 30 April.

¹ [Daniel Burton, A.M. He held Burgh with Skeyton. To the latter place he was preferred by Sir Robert Paston, Bart., in 1666, "and the whole parish sent him a letter of thanks for presenting a man so much esteemed and liked by them."—Blomefield, vi. 363.]

1694. Rachel filia Edm. Burr jun. sepult. 23 Decemb.
 1695. Anna filia Edm. et Annæ Burr bapt. 7 July.
 1696. Margarita filia Edm. et Annæ Burr bapt. 11 January.
 1697. Edmund Burr sen. sepult. 21 June.
 1698. Matthæus filius Edmundi et Annæ Burr bapt. 18 July.
 1699. Edmundus filius Edm. et Annæ Burr bapt. 29 Aug.
 Edm. Burr sepult. 2 Sept.
 1703. [Writing deteriorates for two years. Entries previously signed annually by minister and churchwardens, now, Mr. Burton being dead, "Jonathan Wrench, Rector,"² signs each page.]
 1705, March 25. Robert son to Robert Doyl & Mary. this to be p^d next half year.
 1721. Edmund son to Matthew Burr and Anne bapt. March 1.
 1725, Ap. 10. James and Joseph sons to Thomasine Suggate, base children.
 Mar. 10. Marabella daughter to Mathew Burr and Anne.
 1727, Feb. 2. Anne daughter to Matthew Burr and Anne.
 1733, Jan. 13. Edmund son to Mathew Burr and Anne.
 1735. Thomas Gallant singleman, Rector of Blickling, to Dye Jewell single woman of Aylsham, February 23rd 1735.

Burials.

- 1704 (1705) March 6. Matthew Burr.
 1708, June 26. The wife of Edmund Burr.
 1715, Aug. 22. Margaret Burr the mother of Edm. Burr.
 Jan. 21. John Thomson Gent.
 1718, Dec. 17. Margaret Daughter to William Burres & Ann.

² [*Jonathan Wrench*. He appears to have held Burgh with Aylsham and Metton. He was brother of Sir Benjamin Wrench, M.D., of Norwich, a physician of some celebrity in his day. He published *A Short View of the Principal Duties of the Christian Religion, dedicated to the Parishioners of Aylsham*. Lond. 1700, duod.]

- 1720, Nov. 29. Edmund Burr.
 1724, Oct. 31. Edmund son to Matthew Burr and Ann.
 1725, Ap. 25. Joseph son to Thomasin Suggatt, Basechild.
 1728, Dec. 27. Anne Daughter to Matthew Burr & Anne.
 1741, July 27th. Francis Case was buried who with one Howes of Wyndham his servant was suffocated by the dampes, &c., in a well at Mundaley Notwithstanding which a short while after Two men more ventured to go down in the same well, one of which lost his Life & the other very near being dead, when drawn out, from the same cause.

A terrier of glebe lands in fourteen pieces, the parsonage being 44 feet long, 15 feet broad, and 9 feet high.

31 Aug. 1699. Burro'.

Collected for the Breefe in Southwark in S^t. George parish the sum of £0. 3s. 2d.

— Walker, Collector. Peter Cozens, Churchwarden.

28 Sept. 1690.

Collected in Burro for Byshop Lavington in Wiltshire 18 pence.

Hen. Walker Collector.

9 November 1690.

Collected in Burro for the 2^d Irish Breife two shillings, & payd in with the breife to Nich: Brown of Norwich Register to the Archdeacon, & a letter (of what was collected) sent to M^r Tho: Firmin in 3 Kings Court in Lombard Street in London.

9 June 1686.

Collected in our parish of Burro to the Breefe for the French Protestants three shillings and three pence which was payd in to Nich: Browne Register to the Archdeacon of Norwich.

D. Burton Minister.

Robt. Moore Churchwarden.

1644.

The parsonage house of Burrough consisting of foure roomes was well repaired by Neth. Gil Rector there and 2 more roomes planced at his proper charges, so that now there are there six roomes. The homestalls are 4 acres. The gleabe (wel knowne) in y^e feild are ten acres.

Neth. Gil presbyter armiger Rector ecclesiæ.

William Ashwel Churchwarden.

Clement Juel	} Constables.
James Bell	

In y^e yeare 1661.

The chancel was paved, thatched, and glazed and the parsonage houses (above mentioned) repaired, at the great charge of Neth. Gil Rector, though hee had all that time bin sequestred for loyalty to King Charles the first.

Neth. Gil presbyter armiger R^r ecclesiæ.

William Parker Churchwarden.

Robt. Smyth.

Thomas Bell.

Richard Goodings.

This was presented in a parchment copy to Edward L^d Bp. of Norwich, approved and by his command admitted into y^e office 1663.

In the month of July in the yeare of our Lord God 1669 the foote Bridge over the river by the Church yard was new built by Tho: Bell and he had for the buildinge of it six pounds, three pounds of it of the parish of Burrough and the other three pounds was paid him by me Tho: Smith for Guybon Goddard Esq. who was then owner of. Brampton Hall who did allow me it againe.

Tho: Smith.

Memorandum.

By his Majesties letters patents towards the redemption of a great number of good subjects taken by the Turkish pirates

There was collected in the parish of Burro the full sume of Fourteene shillings which was paid in to M^r Nich. Browne Register in Norwich.

Dan. Burton Minister.

24 Sept.

1680.

Tho : Bell

&

Clem : Ash

} Churchwardens.

Borough Brydge newe made at y^e cost of y^e whole county by the consent of y^e Justices of y^e in Anno Dni 1608 at the county siscions and it cost 16^{li} makinge.

George Bell cler. Wlm. Tylls Thomas Housse Thomas Ho Robert Stubbard Frances & Jhon Baker Jhon Wyth.

The Brydge betw. Burrow & Aylesham (coṃonly called Burrow Bridge) intirely Rebuilt wth Brick of the year 1748 as it had been of wood, &c., a^bt 40 years before at the sole expence of the county. Charge of Rebuilding as now. [*sic.*]

SECOND VOLUME OF BOROUGH REGISTER.

Rebecca y^e daughter of Eliz. Howard Baseborn was bapt. March 6, 1742. Buried Eliz. Howard March 17, 1742.

1752. Buried Mary wife of John Winnet & their three children Infants (Born at one time) Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Oct. y^e 31.

1761. M^r Thomas Gallant M.A. departed this life Nov. 16th 1771, having been Rector of this parish upwards of 20 years, was buried at Blickling y^e 20th.

1762. William Tillet son of Joseph Tillet and of Matthew his wife was killed by an Accident of M^r. John Woolsey's Waggon September y^e 15 and was buried on the 18.

1763. June 14th, 1763, Delivered in a new Terrier By me John Woolsey churchwarden.
John Wight Rector.

1765. Gasely Bayfield & Mary Woolsey were married by license June 27.

[Base born children become very numerous.]

1778. W^m. Jewell Rector. "Delivered at the Generals"
[entered at side.]

1783. Ann daughter of Edmund and Ann Burr 27th April.

1784. Richard Jones son of Ann Jones a Pauper 14th March.
[At side.] Paid 1/3 for Births from Oct. 1, 83, to Oct. 1, 84.

Robert Francis for J. Gay, jun. Collector.

1783. Joseph Dyball an old man aged 77 buried at the expence of the parish December 21st.

1784. Ann Bell an old woman buried at the expense of the Parish of Thirning 17th March.

Rec^d 6^d. for Burials from Oct. 1, 83, to Oct. 8, 84.

R. Francis for J. Gay, junior, Collector.

1787. Edmund son of Edmund Burr & Ann his wife, late Ann Hubbard, spinster, was born 23^d March & baptized 25 March, 1787.

"Duty paid."

1790. Mary daughter of John Postle and Ann his wife, late Ann Juby, spinster, was born 26th December & baptized 27 Dec.

1804. Ann daughter of W^m. Hurnard and Ann his wife, late Ann Burr, spinster, was born 10th & baptized 11 March.

1808. Maribel Burr was buried 14th May, 1808, aged 83 years.

1810. Edmund Burr aged seventy six years was buried 10th Feb.

The Bridge between Burrow & Aylesham (commonly called Burrow Bridge) Intirely rebuilt wth Brick of the year 1748, as it had been of woodde ab^t 40 years before, at the sole expence of the County. Charge of Rebuilding as now.

BURGH OR BORUGH, OTHERW. BURROW NEXT AYLESHAM.

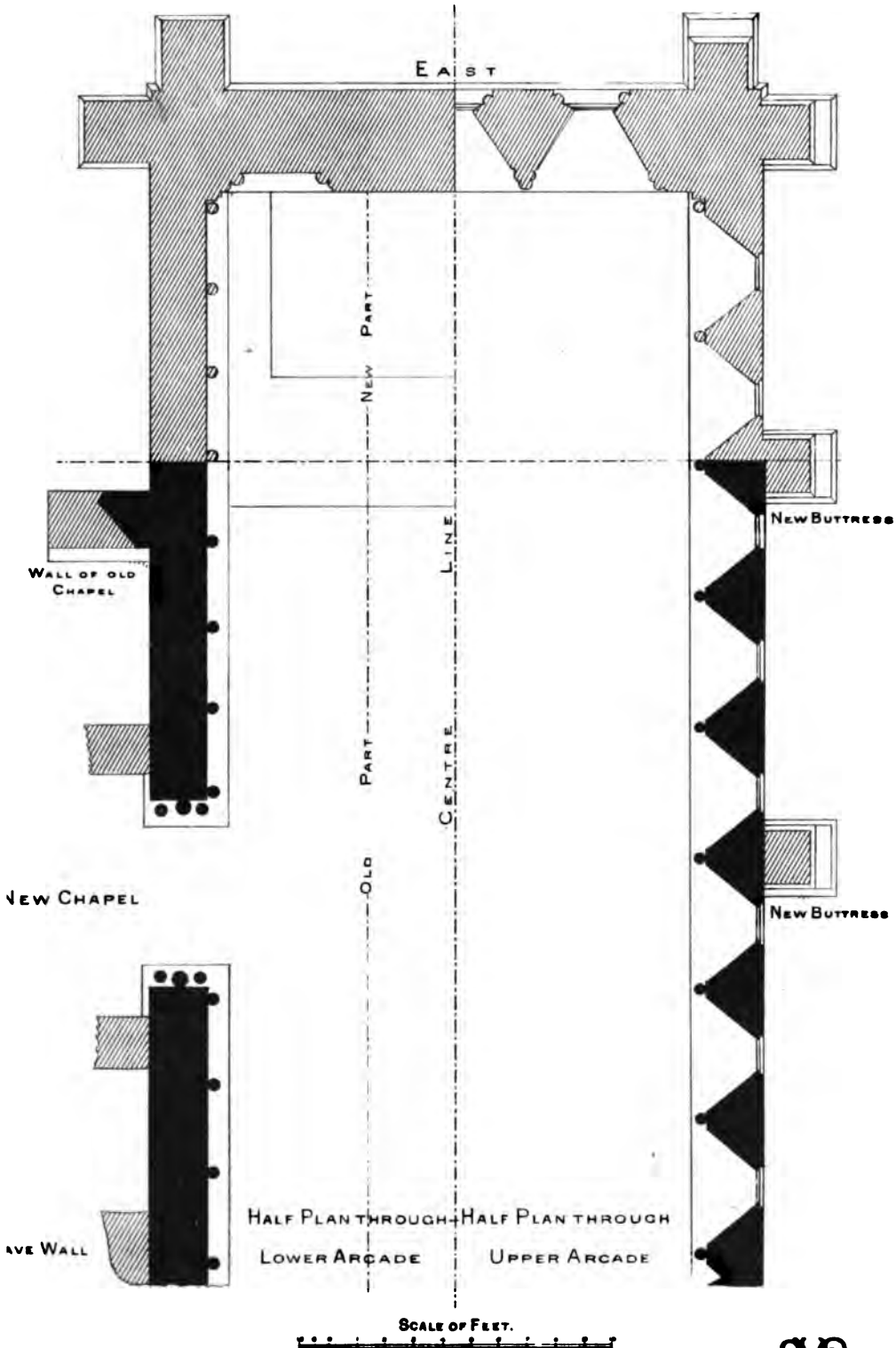
From an antient Register of this Parish it appears y^t from 1563, 5th of Q. Eliz. there have been no more yⁿ y^e following Incumbents without interruption (except some time of y^e usurpation of O. Cromwell, when y^e same person ejected was at y^e Restoration Repossessed) viz. (or except one before Mr Bell) [query, John Tylles ob. 1569 ?]

Yrs. m.

- 61. 16 Mr. George Bell (who might have been Rector time before 1563) [but ? Tylles] buried 30 Aug. 1625.
- 13. 3 Mr. Will. Leeds buried in y^e chancel 1638.
- 30. 5 Mr. Nath. Gill buried Ap. 2, 1669.
- 35. 3 Mr. Dan. Burton died anno 1704.
- 36. 8 Mr. Jon Wrench died May 1741.
- 20. 6 Mr. Tho. Gallant died Nov. 16, 1761.
- 16. 3 Mr. John Wight died 3 Feb. 1778.
- 51. 6 Mr. William Jewell died 1829.
- 2. 4 Mr. F. E. Cordin held the Rectory from October, 1829, to December, 1831, for E. Holley ; resigned 1832.
- 41. 0 Mr. Edward Holley resigned and died 1873.
Mr. Edmund Telfer Yates, M.A., J.P.

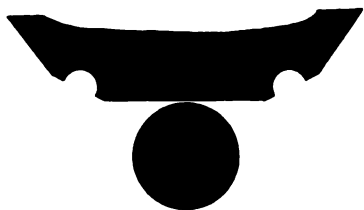


CHANCEL OF BURGH CHURCH NEXT AYLSHAM.





CHANCEL OF BURGH CHURCH NEXT AYLSHAM.



JAMB AT AA



ARCH AND HOOD MOLD BB



STRING C



STRING D



ARCH MOLD EE



CAP F



BASE G



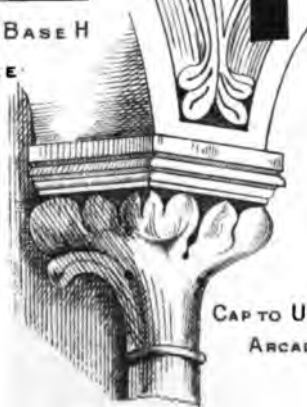
CAP K

BASE H

1/6 FULL SIZE



CAP TO LOWER
ARCADE



CAP TO UPPER
ARCADE

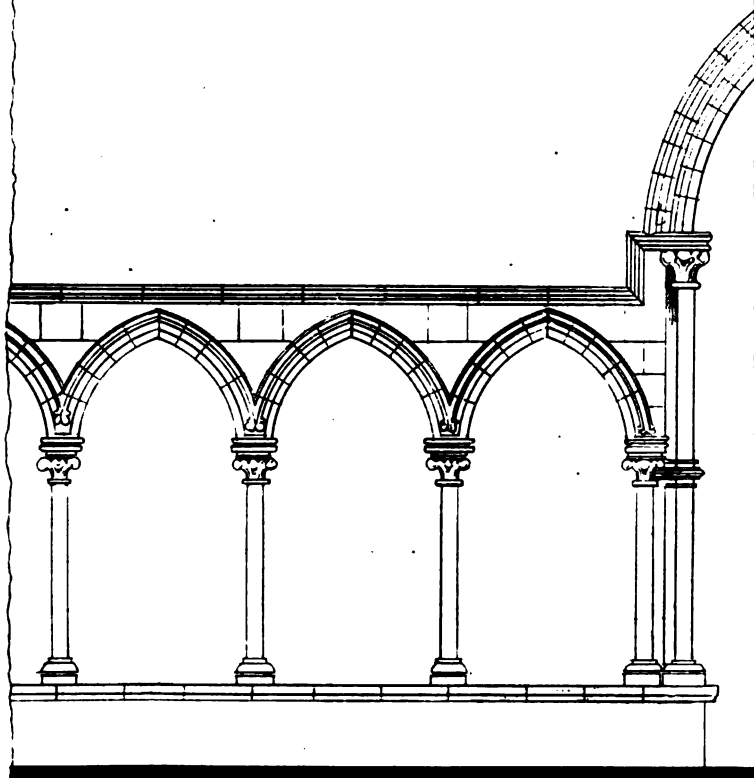
DETAILS OF JAMBS, ARCH MOLDS, STRINGS.
CAPS & BASES &c.

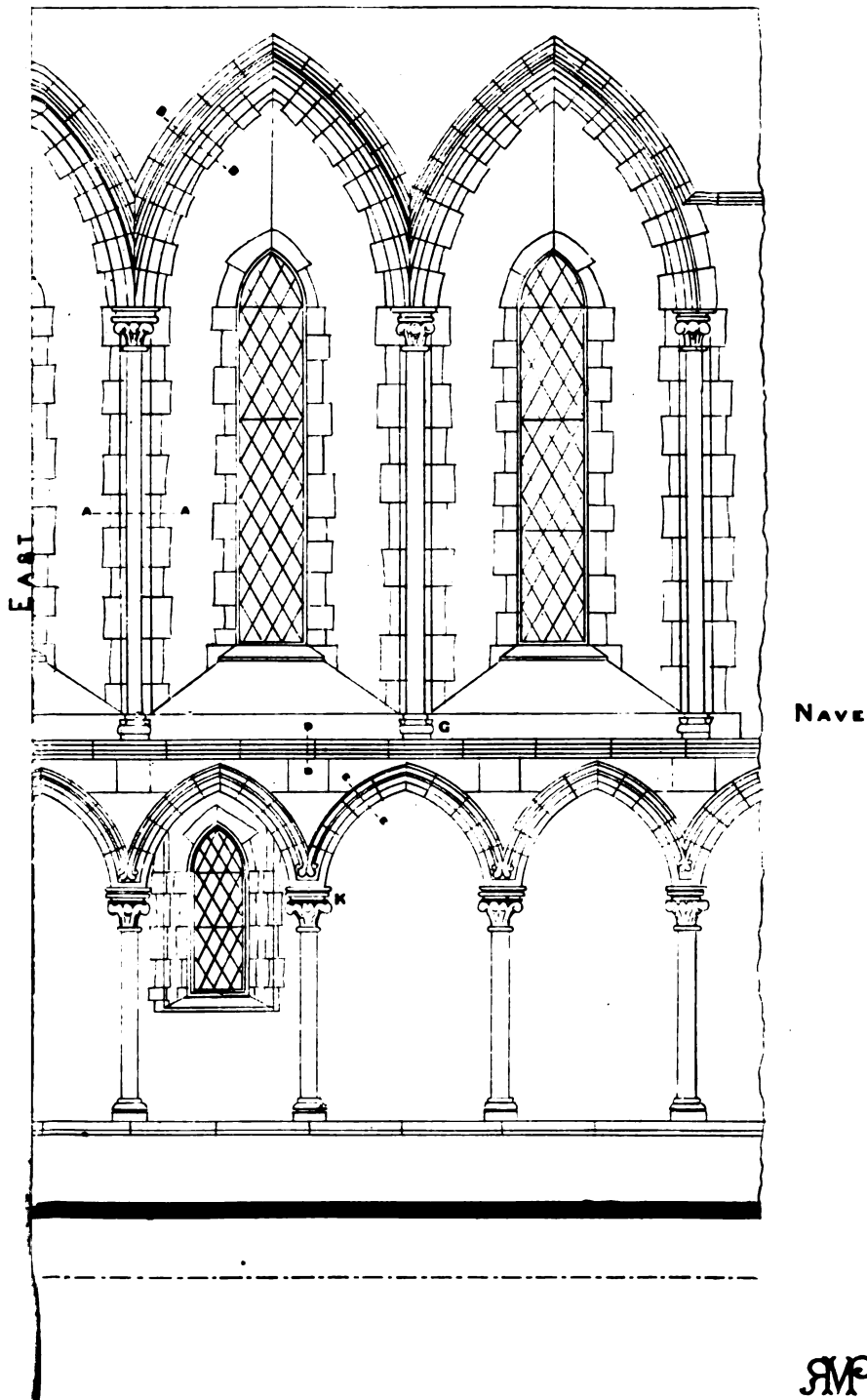


NAVE

R o o f

EAST







NOTES ON THE CHANCEL

OF

The Church at Burgh by Aylsham.

COMMUNICATED BY

R. MAKILWAINE PHIPSON, F.S.A., F.R.I.B.A.

THE accompanying illustrations, made from accurate and careful measurements, will, I hope, give a good idea of the chancel of Burgh Church as it was and is. Whether it was originally the chancel of a church, or whether it did not form part of an entire church, including the nave, is to me doubtful. It certainly extended to both the west (notice the half-finished lower arcade) as well as to the east, and may have formed part of a small church without any chancel arch, with perhaps an apsidal east end.

This, however, is mere conjecture. All we know for certain is that there is left a most beautiful and elegantly-proportioned piece of Early English architecture, of the latter part of the twelfth or early in the thirteenth century.

The drawings show the old work as left (which was so perfect that it needed but little restoration, and that little has been done in the most careful and conservative manner) and the new which has been added, almost entirely in accordance with Sir Gilbert Scott's suggestions.

When I received Sir Gilbert's sketch and letter I replied to him thus:—

Norwich, 15th June, 1876.

My dear Sir Gilbert,

Thanks for your tracings and letter about Burgh Chancel. I have also received from Mr. Yates your sketches and the letter to him which you sent me copies of. Your suggestions are of course very good. The only thing that occurs to me is, whether the extension should be two windows on the north and south sides, and whether the space in the lower arcading on the south side, which you very properly remark would be left blank, if the lower arcading was continued only one arch, might not have been filled in with a smaller arch forming a piscina. You probably noticed that the north and south arcading under the windows do not range with the upper arcading.

Yours very truly,

R. MAKILWAINE PHIPSON.

To this Sir Gilbert replied:—

Spring Gardens, June 19th, 1876.

My dear Sir,

Your suggestion is possible, but does not, I think, suggest really only *one* window more, but *three*.

The defect in my scheme is, that it fails to give a sanctuary step. Now if you were to add three windows instead of two, and apply your system of a small arch for a piscina, this would be obviated at once, though I confess it might be still better effected by adding four windows. *One* would do little for us, and a single window beyond the north chapel would look very poor. It would be still better if there were two sanctuary steps. It would make the sedilia somewhat stumpy perhaps.

On the whole I am inclined to this view, viz., *three*

instead of two extra windows, your narrow arch for a piscina, and two five-inch sanctuary steps. This would make a very excellent arrangement, whether the original one or not. Perhaps, if you should determine to lengthen at all, you will find fragments which will suggest the true arrangement.

Yours very truly,

GEO. GILBERT SCOTT.

It will be seen by this that Sir Gilbert was himself very uncertain as to how the east end should be treated. I ultimately carried out, or very nearly carried out, his original suggestions entire, preserving carefully all the old work. The outside of the windows are very plain, consisting of a simple chamfer about half-an-inch wide, without hood mould or any other stonework.

Open-air Hundred Courts in Norfolk.

COMMUNICATED BY

GEORGE LAURENCE GOMME, ESQ., F.S.A.

It is hard indeed if local institutions do not help us to elucidate some obscure points of national history. As merely local institutions, that is, the outcome of this or that local influence, the peculiar characteristics of some particular shire, town, or district, they are not of much value. But take local institutions on to a broader platform, place them in their position as the factors which go to make up the national constitution, and then it appears to me that there is no more valuable evidence to the historical enquirer than that which they supply. For it is in the provincial districts, where the central government has not called upon the institutions there established to take their part in the ever progressing national development, or at all events to take any specially important part, that the old historical life has kept up the old habits and the old customs, and has therefore preserved an historical epoch which the nation, as a political constitution, has long since left behind.

In this way I have considered the subject of the Open-air Courts still extant in the works of local historians, if not now actually kept up themselves. I have traced out

these open-air assemblies in every local institution of the land—in the national Witan itself of early times, in the shire-moot, in the hundred-moot, in the manor, in the forest courts, mine courts, and so on; and lastly, in the courts of the most fully developed of all English institutions, namely, the municipal boroughs. Then, taking the evidence thus supplied from our own land, and comparing it with the evidence of primitive life elsewhere, with the open-air assemblies of Switzerland and Germany, to which our modern historians are so fond of appealing for evidence of English history, when they might appeal to English evidence alone, we find that these open-air assemblies of England are the survivals of some of the earliest days of our glorious freedom—a freedom which has laid the foundation of a national commonwealth, which has given us a monarchy without despotism or wrong-doing, an elected assembly without the evils of democracy and its license.

Among the best group of examples I have been able to collect, none is more valuable than the hundreds of Norfolk. Many Norfolk men have perhaps read the following quotations from their great county historian, but perhaps I may without much vanity say that they did not then know that they were reading of institutions which are still the proud privileges of the inhabitants of the Swiss cantons to possess, though not alone among the nations of Europe, now that we can turn to England for similar examples. Let me tell Norfolk men that they ought to be proud indeed of their historian, for he has done what many local historians have, to their shame, left undone, namely, paid an equal attention to local institutions as to local family history. With these few remarks, therefore, I beg to draw attention to the Open-air Hundred Courts of Norfolk.¹

¹ [The rest of this communication is an extract, by permission of Mr. Gomme, from his forthcoming work "Primitive Folk-Moots, or Open-air Assemblies in Britain." Low, Marston, & Co., London, 1880.]

Among modern institutions the hundred has always had a tendency to decay, and at the present time there are hardly any duties of local government attached to it. This tendency began very early, as Professor Stubbs has pointed out (*Const. Hist. Eng.* i. 107.) The hundred was never called upon, as the shire has been, to take part in the movements of modern political necessities. It has been left pretty much to its own devices: it had more vitality than the manor, because its area of jurisdiction was wider, and because it had some fiscal duties which the State could not abolish all at once. And accordingly we see it, among early English institutions, not so prominent as the shire, more prominent than the manor.

This middle position, if I may so call it, quadrates exactly with its position in the evidence as to primitive folk-moots in Britain. It has retained some few instances of historical survival. The number I am able to bring forward might no doubt be increased by further research among our literary sources of knowledge, or by more information from local sources which has never found its way into literature. Still the number of instances would not be large; and the more one examines official records of court-rolls, the more one comes to the conclusion that it was of no legal value, and, of course, of no local interest, to put on record the place of meeting. As a fair criterion of the evidence which the hundred courts contribute to our subject, it is only necessary to turn to Blomefield's *History of Norfolk*, and take from thence all the information about the meeting-places of the hundreds of Norfolk. It is a great pity that local historians have not devoted more of their researches to the subject of local institutions. Each local history would then contain a contribution to the national history, and would be of far wider interest than it is now.

But of the hundred courts of Norfolk we have ample evidence. Of meetings on natural eminences there are three instances:—"Humbleyard hundred takes its name from a

valley in the parish of Swerdeston, where the hundred court was anciently kept, and which in evidences still retains the name of Humble-yard, the low yard or court" (v. 1). "The hundred court of Clackclose hundred was held in 18 Edw. I. at Clackclose Hill, on the Common of Stradset" (vii. 268). And, "The court for the hundred of Taverham was kept at Fretenham Hill" (x. 398). Of meetings on barrows or tumuli the following important instances occur:—"About the centre of the hundred of Grimeshow, two miles from Weeting, on the road from Brandon to Norwich, is a very curious Danish encampment in a semicircular form.² At the east end of this entrenchment is a tumulus, pointing towards Thetford, and here the hundred court used to be held. This remarkable place retains the name of 'Grimes Graves'" (ii. 148). "The hundred of Forehoe, or Feorhou, takes its name from the four hills where the hundred court used to be held. They lie between Barford and Kimberley, in the field belonging to the parish of Carleton, from them called Carleton Fourhoe, on the south side of the great road leading from Norwich to Hingham" (ii. 374). "The hundred of Greenhoe takes its name from the green hills, or tumuli, lying by the London road to Swaffham" (vi. 1). "The hundred court of Smethdon is said by some to have been kept at a place in the parish of Bircham Magna, called the Barrow, which is diked round except twenty yards in the south-east side, for the better ascent" (x. 287). "The ancient place of holding Freebridge hundred was at Flitcham Burgh, where is a tumulus, about a mile from the town on the road to Sharnburn. In the 3rd of Elizabeth it appears from a rental of Sir Richard Southwell's that his manor of Walsoken paid then to the queen's bailiff of the hundred 40s. per annum, suit of the court,

² Now known to be a collection of pits for mining flint. *Norfolk Archaeology*, vii. 369.

held under an oak at Gaywood near Lynn, and was called 'Gaywood Oak Fee.' After this, the court was held at an oak at Wigenhale St. Germans, called 'Fitton Oak,' in a farm of that name belonging to the town of Lynn" (viii. 328). "The hundred court of Gallow hundred might be anciently held at a place that gave name to it. Philip, son of Richard de Doketon, granted by deed, same date, to Richard de Dunton three pieces of land in the fields of Dunton, at Galehow, and in 6 Edward II. Hugh de Dunton had lands at Galehoges, in Dunton field. In 5 Hen. IV. it was held at Fakenham-Dam, which place might probably have been called Galestow, that is, a hill at the water. In the 3rd and 10th Eliz. the hundred court was held at Longfield Stone. Brothercross hundred seems to have taken its name from a cross placed at the ford or pass over the river at Burnham" (vii. 2), where the courts used to be held. And then there are other familiar places used by the Norfolk hundred courts: "In 29 Hen. VI. the hundred court of Eynford was held at Repeham, where the ford was situated over the river Eyn, from which the hundred takes its name" (viii. 182). "The hundred of Depwade takes its name from the Deep-ford over the river Taseburgh, which though now of no great remark was in early days fordable in no place in this hundred but here only" (v. 123). "In 1639 the hundred court of Mitford was held at 'Brok-pit'" (x. 195). "The hundred court of North Erpingham was held at Guneby Gate, probably near Gunton town. William de Valentia, lord of Matlask, was sued in 52 Hen. III. for withdrawing a suit of court at Gunegate" (viii. 71). "In 1226 the hundred court of South Erpingham was held at Cawston Park gate; for William de Calthrop and Nicholas de Rippen, who had a dispute of right, both appeared, and left it to six of their neighbours, who knew the facts, there to determine it" (vi. 240). "Launditch hundred takes its name from a long ditch with a bank that divides the two parishes of Longham

and Beeston, and runs north and south; where at the crossing of it by the Norwich road the hundred court was anciently kept" (ix. 456). "The hundred of Earsham, or Hersham, as spelt in Domesday, seems to signify the station of the army,³ and accordingly there is an encampment near the church, upon which the hundred court was formerly held."

Such a collection as this from one county shows pretty clearly the general prevalence of the custom at some earlier period in our history. The evidence from other counties is nothing like so extensive; in fact, we only get a few detached instances, of great value, it is true, in themselves, but not so generally valuable as this group of examples.

³ Allowance must be made for Blomefield's philology.

List of the Plate Marks

ON THE CHURCH PLATE BELONGING TO THE PARISHES
IN THE DEANERY OF REDENHALL, NORFOLK.

COMMUNICATED BY

THE REV. C. R. MANNING, M.A., HON. SEC.,

RURAL DEAN.

THE following is a tabulated list of all the Church Plate in the Deanery of Redenhall, of all the inscriptions upon the various articles, and of all the assay marks, makers' marks, date-letters, &c., occurring on them; together with some notes showing the actual date of each, and giving any necessary explanations concerning them.

I have not excluded the modern plate, in order that the record might be complete, and also because a knowledge of even recent marks is helpful to the study of the subject. Only a few years ago it would have been impossible to draw up such a list, from the general absence of information on the matter. But during the last twenty years much attention has been given to it, and the writings of Mr. Octavius Morgan,¹ Mr. W. Chaffers,² and Mr. Wilfred

¹ *Archæological Journal*, x. 33.

² *Hall Marks on Gold and Silver Plate*. By W. Chaffers.—Bickers, London.

Cripps,³ now supply full materials for an accurate knowledge of everything relating to this part of the goldsmith's and silversmith's craft, the assay offices and their marks, and the course of legislation on the subject. Mr. Cripps's most useful and beautiful book, in particular, has been indispensable in the compilation of my list. What is now to be desired is a greater number of examples of early plate to supply authorities for the date-letters of the first three or four cycles of alphabets, and a fuller knowledge of the names and marks of the provincial makers.

Norwich had its Goldsmiths Company and assay office from an early period. Their workshops were in "Smethy Lane," (the street now called Little London Street, running from London Street to Bedford Street) and their "Hall" was behind, to the west,⁴ as shewn in Blomefield's Plan of Norwich.

The records of the Corporation of Norwich, preserved in their muniment room, contain certain volumes giving a record of the freemen or citizens admitted from the year 1317 to the middle of the eighteenth century, with only a few breaks in the reigns of Edward II. and Edward III. The late Mr. John L'Estrange, with great industry, made an index of all the names of these, to the end of the reign of Elizabeth, showing the various trades to which they belonged and, in many cases, to whom they were apprenticed. A portion of the very extensive list, as far as letter C, was published by him in the *East Anglian, Notes and Queries*.⁵ By the kindness of Mr. Walter Rye I have been allowed to extract from Mr. L'Estrange's MSS. all the names of the goldsmiths, which are here given, in order of their date. It is very unlikely that any old Norwich plate will be discovered with makers' marks which

³ *Old English Plate, Ecclesiastical, Decorative, and Domestic: its Makers and Marks*. By Wilfred J. Cripps, Esq., M.A.—Murray, London, 1878.

⁴ Blomefield, iv. 227.

⁵ Vol. iv. p. 139, &c.

this list will serve to identify with the manufacturer, but still it is worth while to put on record the names, if only as a list of Norwich tradesmen of one craft for a long series of years.

NORWICH GOLDSMITHS.

	Date.
John de Horstede	23 Edw. III.
Robert de Bumpsted	39 „
Robert Rose	22 and 23 Rich. II.
William de Denton	1 Hen. IV.
John Hynde	10 „
John Goddys	10 „
Robert Boner	5 Hen. V.
John Nicole (pro maiore)	6 „
John Westwyk	9 „
Richard, son of Rob ^t . Brasyer, Goldsmith & Belyeter	3 Hen. VI.
John Cok, apprenticed to John Goddis	3 „
Thomas Wrentham	4 „
Richard Bere	6 „
John Elger	7 „
Thomas Grene	20 „
John Cok	21 „
John Clerk	24 „
John Matthiesson	24 „
William Underwode ^s	24 „
Thomas Chapman, alias Tottes	27 and 28 Hen. VI.
Reginald Clerk	27 and 28 „
Richard Fraunceys	27 and 28 „
John Dyghton	32 Hen. VI.
Thomas Sheef (marbeler)	32 „
Thomas Gelyngham	33 „
Thomas Willeson	33 „
George Hamchirche, apprenticed to John Cok, Goldsmith	35 „
John Kebyll	35 „
John Cok, apprenticed to John Goddis, Gold- smith	35 „
Richard Herry, apprenticed to same	5 Edw. IV.

^s Father of Bishop Underwood, buried, with brass, in St. Andrew's Church.
See *ante*, vol. vi. p. 14.

Robt. Saunderson, apprenticed to Richard Bere	5 Edw. IV.
William Bonde, apprenticed to same	6 „
John Riche, alias Sutton	19 „
John Smart	20 „
John, son of Robert Belton, Goldsmith	6 Hen. VII.
Edward Belton, apprenticed to same	6 „
Thomas Worcestre, apprenticed to same	7 „
Robert Alman, apprenticed to same	8 „
Thomas Maskey	10 „
John Elger	15 „
John Hunte, son of Robert Hunte, son of Robt. Hunte, Reder	17 „
John Basyngham	8 Hen. VIII.
Thomas Bere	9 „
William Porter	11 „
Nicholas Isborn (alien)	26 „
Nicholas Heyward	29 and 30 Hen. VIII.
John Basyngham the younger	30 Hen. VIII.
William, son of Robert Umfrey, Sherman	1 Edw. VI.
Zacharias Shulte, native alien (indigena et alieni- gena)	2 „
Thomas Wharlowe, apprenticed	2 „
— Cobolde, apprenticed to Thomas Bere	5 „
Peter Peterson, apprenticed to John Basyngham	1 and 2 Ph. and M.
Valentine, son of Nicholas Isborne	2 and 3 „
William Rogers, not apprenticed	1 Elizabeth.
Walter Man, apprenticed to W ^m . Tebolde	4 „
Thomas Buttell	7 „
George Fenne, native alien, not apprenticed	9 „
Christopher Tannor, apprenticed	14 „
George Bladon, apprenticed	15 „
John, son of — Tesmond, late Cordwainer	18 „
John Graye, apprenticed	33 „
Nicholas Wharlowe, apprenticed	35 „
Matthew, son of W ^m . Cobbolde, Goldsmith	35 „
Simon Borrowe, not apprenticed	38 „
Emanuell Garrett, not apprenticed	39 „
Daniel Eynsworth, apprenticed	42 „

The names of three of the above list are recorded in a previous volume by Mr. W. C. Ewing, in his paper on

Norwich Merchants' Marks.⁶ Two of them are John Basingham and John Belton. The house of one of them was, until swept away by modern improvements, in London Street, with the initials I. B. and the goldsmiths' arms. The fine doorway to this house (which Mr. Ewing thinks came from the Grey Friars) is preserved in the south face of the Guildhall, where may now be seen the goldsmiths' arms, and the city arms, with the royal arms above. The other was Peter Peterson, who became an eminent goldsmith, and in 1574 presented the Corporation with a standing cup, on being excused serving the office of sheriff. It still belongs to the Corporation of Norwich, and has for the maker's mark the orb and cross, which almost certainly denotes his work. It is inscribed ✚ THE ✚ MOST ✚ HERE ✚ OF ✚ IS ✚ DVNE ✚ BY ✚ PETER ✚ PETERSON.⁷ Three of the chalices in the Redenhall Deanery bear this mark, viz., those at Diss, 1564-5; at Bressingham and Pulham St. Mary Magdalene, 1567.⁸ The marks of several other goldsmiths in Norwich at the same time appear on Norwich plate of the period: as those of a man's head affrontée at Earsham,⁹ a trefoil slipped at Gissing,¹ and a fish at Winfarthing, all of 1567. William Cobbold is one who is named in the Corporation Records for 1581; and a Mr. Skottow as providing beer cups

⁶ *Norfolk Archaeology*, iii. 195.

⁷ Engraved in Ewing's *Norwich Pageants*; and described in the *Catalogue of Works of Art exhibited at South Kensington in 1862*, p. 465.

⁸ Also at Buxton, Aylsham, and formerly at Raveningham; the last now in the possession of Professor Church, and exhibited at the Archaeological Institute, July, 1877, and engraved in the *Journal*, xxxv. 44.

⁹ Also at Newton and Northwold.

¹ Also at Framingham Earl, Erpingham, Cawston, and Booton; and on Norwich Corporation plate. A sun "in splendour" also occurs at Aylsham; on a cup belonging to Lord Zouche; and on the Corporation plate. Two horses passant counterpassant, at Great Melton and Booton; and a bird at Lamas. These last two marks being of the date 1632 to 1640. All the above are Norwich make.—Cripps, p. 106. The fish, as at Winfarthing, is also found on a similar cup at Woodton, 1567.

and wine cups in 1634.² Mr. Cripps has constructed tables of Norwich date-letters beginning in 1564, but his researches have not produced any dated specimens between 1567 and 1632.

An entry in the books of the Corporation of Norwich, dated "1624, ultimo Julii," as Mr. Ewing has recorded,³ states that by authority of the mayor, a mark, viz., the castle and lion, was then delivered to the wardens and searchers of the trade of goldsmiths. As this date coincides with the commencement of a new alphabet in Mr. Cripps's tables, he considers that the principle on which he has constructed them is confirmed. "About this time, probably on the delivery of this new punch in 1624, the shape of the shield containing the lion and castle was changed, being made somewhat more regular than before, though still shaped out; and the castle was also altered from the rudely-outlined building represented on older stamps, into a tower of the conventional heraldic pattern."⁴

It will be noticed that at Denton there is a chalice of Norwich make with a *standard* mark, viz., a seeded rose crowned. It seems that this, and also a crown, or a rose, or a rose-sprig, on separate punches, was used as a standard mark by the Norwich goldsmiths, but not in Elizabethan times. It is found only on plate of the middle and latter part of the seventeenth century. The same mark belongs also to Dutch plate. It is to be hoped that more infor-

² Ewing's *Norwich Pageants*, p. 30.

³ "1624, Ultimo Julij. This day was appointed by Mr. Maior, with the advice of the Court of Aldermen, a marke, videlt the Castle and Lion, wherewith to touche and make such plate as shallbe made within this City, accordinge to the forme of the Statute in that case made and provided: which marke or touch ys delivered to the Wardens and Searcher of the Trade of the Goldsmithes, to thend that such plate onely as shalbe made according to the Statute, may from henceforth from tyme to tyme be marked therewith, and non other at their pill."—Ewing, *Norwich Pageants*, p. 32.

⁴ Cripps, p. 105.

mation respecting the Norwich makers and their marks may be some day forthcoming, from further research into municipal and private records.

Some explanation of the frequency of the date 1567 on "communion cups" may be desired. Before the Reformation, every cathedral, every conventual and parish church possessed treasures of exquisite art in its plate, the total amount of which would now seem incredible. The reader will not need to be reminded of the irreparable losses in this respect occasioned by the dissolution of the monasteries, and the seizure of their goods by Henry VIII. Notwithstanding, a considerable quantity of Church plate was still in parochial possession in the reign of Edward VI. On the 16th of January, 1553, a commission was issued for the seizure of all goods not absolutely needed for parish churches; allowing in every church one, and in larger churches two chalices to be left for the administration of the Holy Communion. The Returns of this commission exist, and some particulars relating to the churches in Norfolk have been printed by our Society in previous volumes.⁵ I have had extracts made of those in the Deanery of Redenhall, from the Record Office, and they are printed at the end of this Paper. Edward VI. died a few months later; and as no change of the kind would have taken place under Mary, the chalices and patens of the old form doubtless remained in most churches at the beginning of the reign of Elizabeth. But at this time, and in many places considerably earlier, a strong party feeling prevailed for the disuse of "massing chalices," which were reckoned superstitious, and the substitution of "decent communion cups," the laity now receiving the Communion in both kinds. The churchwardens' accounts of the period contain frequent entries of the sale of the one class of chalice, and the purchase of

⁵ Vols. i. 73; v. 116; and in *East Anglian*, vols. ii, iii, and iv., *passim*.

the other. Certain advertisements requiring the change would seem to have been issued by the Queen,⁶ and to have been but slowly put in force. Archbishops Parker⁷ and Grindal favoured the alteration; and wherever a bishop of strongly reforming views ruled, there his injunctions would insist on compliance with the regulation, and his articles of enquiry in successive years would discover any default. This would seem to be the cause of our finding to this day so many "communion cups and covers" of about the same year in the Diocese of Norwich. In the Redenhall Deanery there are eight of the year 1567, and several others, undated or unmarked, from their shape and the circular band of flowing ornament which was the prevailing mode of decoration, appear to be of the same year, or thereabouts. In the list which the Rev. E. Yates published in our fifth volume, p. 226, of Church Plate in the Ingworth Deanery, there are also eight examples of 1567. Bishop Parkhurst then occupied the See of Norwich (1560 to 1574). He was a zealous supporter of the Reformation, and it may be owing to his strict enquiries and orders that the change was so general and simultaneous.⁸

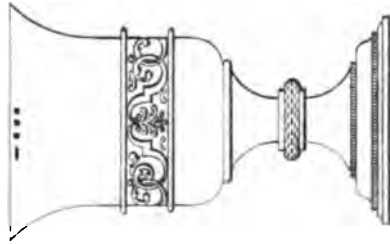
⁶ See a valuable Paper in *Archæological Journal*, xxxv. 44, by the Rev. J. Fuller Russell, entitled *Notes on Elizabethan Communion Plate, in regard especially to substitution of "Decent Cups" with "Covers" for "Massing Chalice" and Patens.*

⁷ Strype relates that Archbishop Parker "propounded divers matters for the better regulation of the Church, to which he with his own hand wrote this title, Articles drawn out by some certain, and were exhibited to be admitted by authority, but not so allowed;" and the 28th of these Orders, "Chalices to be altered to decent cups."—*Annals*, i. 507; I. Part ii. 564. In Parker's Visitation Articles of 1569, he enquires "Whether they do minister in any profane cups, bowls, or dishes, or chalices heretofore used at Masse, or els in a decent communion cuppe provided and kept for the same purpose only?"—Wilkins's *Concilia*, fol. 1737; iv. 258.

⁸ Bishop Parkhurst's Articles of 1569 make enquiry, "Whether you have in your Church . . . a comly communion cup with a cover?"—*Appendix to Second Report of Ritual Commissioners*, p. 405.

Mr. Octavius Morgan has described with his usual care and accuracy the altered shape of the Elizabethan cup and cover,⁹ in words which I cannot do better than transcribe. "The foot is invariably round, instead of being indented and angular. The form of the cup is altogether changed, and instead of being a shallow wide bowl, it is elongated into the form of an inverted truncated cone, slightly bell-shaped." The form of the cover, he also says, is "much changed" from that of the paten, its predecessor: "the sunk part of the platter is often considerably deepened, the brim narrowed, and thereon is fixed a rim or edge, by which it is made, when *inverted*, to fit on the cup as a cover; whilst a foot is added to it, which serves also as a handle to the cover." The paten at Gissing, which is the pre-Reformation one, and has a rudely-engraved head of the Saviour in the centre, has no foot. In one or two cases the foot seems to have been lost: possibly removed when party feeling ran high, and an incumbent favoured the older ritual. It is not easy to account for the remarkable similarity of design and shape in the "communion cups" of Elizabethan date all over the country. The idea exists, as Mr. Cripps relates, that they were all made by order, and issued to every parish by Government under an Act of Parliament. Mr. Morgan has industriously searched through the documentary annals of the Reformation, and injunctions, declarations, orders, proceedings of Convocation, minutes of Privy Council, &c., without finding any authority or direction of the kind. The most probable suggestion seems to be that some such regulation was made by the Convocation of 1562, when many important matters concerning the Church were settled, that being the date of the earliest of these cups. Possibly some one high in authority, as the Archbishop, may have selected a design, or have seen and

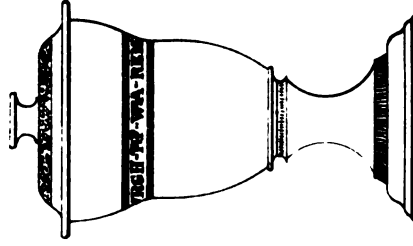
⁹ *Archæologia*, xlii. 405.



Diss
1564.



Archbishop Saragor's.
SARAGOR 1567.



Diakereburgh.
Q.1567.



approved one in use in England or abroad, and his recommendation would be sufficient to cause a general adoption of the pattern for the very large supply that the silver-smiths must have been called upon to make throughout the country.

It may be acceptable to our members to place on record here some brief account of each of the marks with which plate is stamped. The object of the "touch" or assay was, of course, to try whether an article contained the proper proportion of precious metal and alloy to constitute the English standard or sterling, before it was sold as such; and if so, to stamp it. The proportions now used, and which have been in use, with a brief exception, ever since the Conquest, are for gold, twenty-two parts or carats of fine gold and two parts of alloy; and for silver, 11 oz. 2 dwts. of fine silver and 18 dwts. of copper.

1. *The Leopard's Head.* (From 1300). The heraldic reader will not need to be told that the "leopard" means, not a leopard, but a lion passant guardant. The arms of England are three such "leopards;" and it is probable that this, the earliest mark, was taken from the arms, and the crown added to show it was the king's mark. The oldest known statute on the subject is the Act of 21 Edward I., cap. 20, which ordains that no goldsmith should make any article of gold or silver unless it be of good and true alloy, *i.e.*, gold of the standard of the touch of Paris, and silver of the sterling alloy of the coin, or better; that all articles should be assayed by the warden of the craft, and marked with the leopard's head, &c. In 1327 the Goldsmiths' Guild was incorporated by Edward III., and the charter states, among many other provisions, that in all trading cities in England where goldsmiths reside, the same ordinance be observed as in London, and that one or two of every such city or town for the rest of the trade shall

come to London to be ascertained of their touch of gold, and to have their works marked with the puncheon of the leopard's head, as it was anciently ordained. It is of great importance, in examining old plate, to notice *the shape of the punches*; in some cases, where the date-letter is the same, these shapes, outlines, squares, and shields, are the only guide to the true year. The leopard's head crowned is seen in a plain circular outline until 1546; from that date until 1678 the shape follows the outline of the head, crown, and beard, so that the mark is a very distinct one. From 1678 to 1696 the crowned head appears *within* a clear circular or rather oval outline. From March, 1696, to June, 1720, the leopard's head and the lion passant were discontinued altogether, as will be noticed presently, and Britannia and the lion's head erased substituted. For about ten years from 1720 the punches are of uncertain shape, and as Mr. Cripps thinks, are like old damaged punches of before 1697 brought again into use. From 1729 to 1739 the leopard's head appears in a plain angular heraldic shield; and from 1739 to 1756 in a shaped shield, the base forming a kind of trefoil, corresponding with the date-letter shield of the same years. From 1726 to 1823 it is placed within a modern shield, with the top corners cut off, and the base rounded or squared, with a slight cusp at the bottom. The size also was somewhat diminished after 1729, and the mane and beard disappeared. In 1823 a more important change for the worse took place, which continues to the present day: the *crown* was omitted, and the face is represented like a real leopard, or rather a *cat*.

2. *The Maker's Mark.* (From 1363). By the 37th Edward III., cap. 7, it was ordained that no goldsmith should work any gold or silver but of the alloy of good sterling; that every master goldsmith should have a mark by himself which should be known by them who should be

assigned to survey their work; that the goldsmiths should not set their mark till their work was assayed; and that after the assay made, the surveyor should set the king's mark upon it, and that then the goldsmith should set his mark for which he should answer.¹ But few of the early makers' marks are known. Mr. Cripps has tabulated those that have come under his notice, consisting of simple devices, as a heart, a cross, or an example of the ordinary "merchant's mark," &c. After a time the worker's initials became the rule. In 1697 (8 and 9 William III., cap. 8) when the standard for plate was raised above that of the coinage,² (to prevent the melting down of coin in order to refurnish the cupboards that had been sacrificed or confiscated in the preceding troubled times), it was also enacted that the worker's mark should be expressed by the first *two* letters of his *surname*. On the restoration of the old sterling standard in 1720, the use of ordinary initials was reverted to, and some makers had two marks, one for each standard. From 1739, when another act was passed, to the present day, the makers' mark is exclusively the initials of their Christian and surnames. These are found in a variety of types and outlines, and are often accompanied by other devices within the same compartment, as animals' heads, &c., and also by certain minute marks, stars, mullets, fleur-de-llys, &c., which are workshop marks to denote the particular maker of the article.

3. *The Annual Letter*. (From 1438). Mr. Cripps³ has given reasons for believing that the annual letter was first adopted in England in 1438, following the example of the French goldsmiths in 1427. But it is not noticed in any early Act or Ordinance, as it was the assayers' or wardens' mark of the Goldsmiths Company, and any infringement of its use would come under the notice of that body, and

¹ Cripps, p. 29.

² The "Britannia" standard.

³ Page 72.

not under any statutory provisions of Parliament. This most valuable mark enables us, by the help of the tables compiled by Mr. Morgan, Mr. Chaffers, or Mr. Cripps, to ascertain the precise year in which any piece of plate was made.⁴ The cycles of alphabets change every twenty years, various types of letters being used; consequently, from 1438 to the present time, as many as twenty-three cycles have come round, the twenty-third being now in progress. The only break was in 1696, on the introduction of the new standard, when new marks were appointed, and a fresh alphabet begun. As the change of letter occurs on May 29th in each year, it must be borne in mind in determining a date that each letter serves for a portion of two years.

4. *The Lion passant.* (From 1545). The exact date of the introduction of this mark, and its exact purpose, are not certainly known. It is never found before 1540; and Mr. Cripps thinks it was adopted by Henry VIII., when the fineness of the silver coin of the realm was for the first time lowered, to show that the plate bearing it was of the old sterling standard, and not reduced to that of the coinage. From 1545, when the first dated example occurs, to 1678, it is seen in a punch of the same irregular outline as itself. From 1678 to the introduction of the new standard in 1696-7, it is in a plain rectangle with the upper corners rounded off. It was not used at all while the Britannia standard prevailed (1697—1720) as will be noticed under the next marks. It reappears with the return to the old standard, and from 1729 to 1739 is placed in an oblong rectangle; then, till 1756, the oblong is slightly cusped or “invecked” at the bottom and sides; and from that time to the present the oblong is straight-sided, with a small cusp at the bottom, as in a shield.

⁴ Mr. Cripps's tables should be consulted in preference to the others, as being more full, accurate, and convenient.

5 and 6. *The Lion's Head erased, and figure of Britannia.* (From 1697). At this date the standard for silver plate was raised from 11 oz. 2 dwts. to 11 oz. 10 dwts. fine, and these two marks were substituted for the leopard's head crowned and the lion passant. The alteration, however, only continued until June, 1720, when the old sterling standard was restored. The higher standard was nevertheless and still is legal, and if plate of such quality is made, it must be stamped with these marks. It is rare, however, to find any much later than 1720. During the few years when this standard was the only lawful one, much plate, especially domestic, was made, and is easily recognized by these stamps and the court-hand alphabet which accompanied them, and it is, of course, for its high quality much esteemed.

7. *The Sovereign's Head.* (From 1784). This is the *duty* mark, imposed by the 24th George III., cap. 53, on all plate liable to be assayed, and not exempted. In 1784-5 it is found in intaglio instead of in relief, with the head to the left. Afterwards it is in relief like other marks, with the profile to the right; but under the present reign the Queen's head is turned to the left again.

The foregoing remarks apply exclusively to the London Assay Office. Several other towns besides Norwich, viz., York, Newcastle, Chester, Exeter, Lincoln, Bristol, Coventry, had their own offices from early times, and distinct cycles of annual letters. Edinburgh and Dublin had also their own. In 1701, on the passing of an Act on the subject, York, Bristol, Exeter, Chester, Norwich, and (1702) Newcastle, continued to assay plate under new provisions. For particulars of these provincial offices, and their date-letters and makers' marks, reference may be made to the works on the subject already quoted. In Norwich the assayer's

office seems to have fallen into disuse after the middle of the seventeenth century. A goldsmiths company still existed when the Act of William III. came into operation, and one William Hartstongue was sworn Assayer in 1702,¹ but nothing is known of its ultimate history.

A few exceptional marks sometimes occur, as at Fersfield, Pulham St. Mary, and Tivetshall. They are probably provincial, but nothing is certain at present about them.²

There is also sometimes found on Norwich plate, adjoining the hall marks, a punched line about half an inch in length, of a *dancetté* or herring-bone shape, of which I can offer no explanation.



MARKS ON CHALICE, DISS, 1564.

The entire absence of marks on many Elizabethan specimens is also puzzling. For some reason or other the law was not complied with, and the plate was not assayed; possibly, as Mr. A. W. Franks has suggested to me, because it was not made for *sale*, church plate being inalienable. I shall be grateful to any persons who will send me particulars of any *Norwich* plate they may have access to, either in their churches or in private possession.³

¹ Ewing, p. 33; Cripps, p. 128.

² *Ibid.*, p. 114.


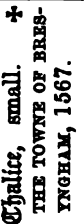
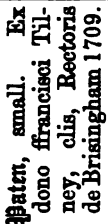
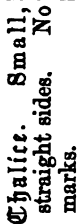
³ I am sorry to learn, from some of the principal London silversmiths, that of late years a considerable amount of Elizabethan and other plate has been sold or exchanged by clergymen and churchwardens, chiefly where high ritual prevails, for modern plate of mediæval pattern. However beautiful and fitting these may be, it would be far better to *keep* the old plate, at a slight additional expense; and without a faculty the sale is illegal.

The short bar denotes the presence of a mark; the dots, its absence.

PARISH.	PLATE : Inscriptions, &c.	MARKS.							DATE OF MANUFACTURE AND NOTES.
		Leopard's Head crowned.	Maker's Mark.	Date Letter.	Lion Passant.	Britannia.	Lion's Head crowned.	Governer's Head.	Provincial Town Mark.
AL- BURGH.	<i>Chalice. Sacrum Deo et Ecclesie de Al- burgh, Norfolk, 1746.</i>	—	<i>S. W.</i>	Roman small k in shaped shield.	—	..	..	..	1746-6.
BELLING- FORD.	<i>Patn.</i>	—	<i>S. W.</i>	Ditto.	—	..	..	..	1745-6.
	<i>Flagon. (Electro- plate) fig in quatre- foil) ALL SAINT'S CHURCH, ALBURGH, THE GIFT OF ARCH- DEACON NEVILL.</i>	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1878.
BELLING- FORD.	<i>Chalice. Wine-glass form. Two circular bands. No marks.</i>	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Elizabethan.
	<i>Patn (cover to chal- ice). Similar band. No foot, no marks.</i>	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

PARISH.	PLATE: Inscriptions, &c.	MARKS.							DATE OF MANUFACTURE AND NOTES.
		Leopard's Head crowned.	Maker's Mark.	Date Letter.	Leon Passant.	Britannia.	Leon's Head erased.	Sovereign's Head.	
BILLING- FORD.	Chalice. <i>Billingford.</i> <i>T. C., Rector, 1805.</i>	—	J. E. in lobed square.	Roman cap. G in shield.	—	..	..	—	1802-3. Rev. Thos. Cow- per was Rector 1798 to 1823.
	Patn. <i>Billingford.</i> <i>T. C., Rector, 1805.</i>	—	T. H. I. C. in lobed square.	Roman cap. I in shield.	—	..	..	—	1804-5.
	Patn. <i>Billingford.</i> <i>T. C., Rector, 1805.</i>	—	Ditto.	Ditto.	—	..	..	—	1804-5.
	Spoon ("rat-tailed.") <i>Billingford Church.</i>	..	Wa. stag's head above.	Court- hand V in shield.	..	—	—	..	1715-16. Duplicates of this spoon and knife at Diss. Probably the gift of John Briars, M.A., Rec- tor of both parishes, bur- ied at Billingford, 1 Jan. 1728-9. Wa. is the mark of Benjn. Watts.—Cripps, p. 372.

<p>Bill. Silver handle, curved steel blade. <i>Billingford Church.</i></p>	..	A. H. C. W. A crown and upright sword above (on blade.)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1650 to 1700? On the back: <i>IAQVES - AYDIN</i> (or <i>GAYDIN</i>) with a defaced rose and (crown?) betw.
<p>Alms Dish. (Pewter) <i>Arms</i>: In a lozenge, Quarterly, on the 2nd and 3rd quarters a fret; over all on a bend three escallops, <i>Spencer</i>; Impaling, a fess dancetté between three crosses crosslet fitchée, <i>Sandys</i>; <i>Crest</i>, Out of a ducal coronet a griffin's head, gorged, between two wings expanded.</p>	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
<p>BRES- SINGHAM. <i>Chalice</i>, large. Ex- donor Roberti Hor- ner nuper de Bris- ingham Generosi Ecclesie Parochiali ejusdem Villæ in com. Norff. 1709.</p>	..	G. A. mullet & three pellets.	Court- hand N in shield.	..	—	—	..	..	..	1708-9. Duplicate at Roydon. Robt. Horner, s. of Rev. Robt. H., Rector of Roydon, d. 4 Dec. 1708, bur. at Roydon; slab in chancel.


PARISH.	PLATE: Inscriptions, &c.	MARKS.							DATE OF MANUFACTURE AND NOTES.
		Leopard's Head crowned.	Maker's Mark.	Date Letter.	Lion Passant.	Britannia.	Lion's Head crested.	Boverington's Head.	Provincial Town Mark.
BRES- SINGHAM.	 	..	G. A. and a crown.	Court- hand O in shield.	..	—	—	..	1709-10.
		..	G. A. mullet & three pellets.	Court- hand N in shield.	..	—	—	..	1566-7. The orb and cross is the mark of Peter Pe- terson, goldsmith, of Nor- wich. 1708-9. Francis Tilney, 88 M.A., was Rector, 1667 to 1715.
BROOK- DISH.		Seventeenth cent. Church- wardens' Accounts, 1665, "For making the com- munion cup at Harleston 5s. 4d., besides 6s. 2d. worth of silver more than the old chalice weyed." "1569. Paid to Belward the Dean for certifying there is no cover to the cup, 8d."—Blomefield, v. 338.

[illegible]

PARISH.	PLATE: Inscriptions, &c.	MARKS.							DATE OF MANUFACTURE AND NOTES.
		Leopard's Head crowned.	Maker's Mark.	Date Letter.	Lion Passant.	Britannia.	Lion's Head erased.	Goverdun's Head.	Provincial Town Mark.
DENTON.	† Chalice. IHS and nails in rays. Cir- cular band. On the foot: <i>Presented to the Church at Den- ton by Wm. Arundell Bowers, B.D., Rec- tor A.D. 1841.</i> Crest, A demi-eagle with two heads, displayed, ducally gorged; on the breast a cross crosslet.	—	M in square.	Black- letter small r in plain heraldic shield.	—	..	..	..	..
	Chalice. <i>To the Thorne of Denton in Norff. 1764.</i> Straight- sided form.	(Norwich Stand- ard.) Seeded Rose crowned.	Obscure. Letter or mark crowned?	Roman cap. K in plain heraldic shield.	..	..	..	..	Norwich Castle and Lion, in plain heraldic shield.
									1574-5. Good Elizabethan cup, altered, and en- gravings added. The Roman cap. M in a square is a known maker's mark of the time.—Cripps, pp. 345, 348.
									1653-4; 1673-4; or 1693- 4. Inscription added in 1764.

Patm. IHS in rays. Presented to the Church at Denton by William Arundell Bouverie, B.D., Rec- tor A.D. 1844.	..	J. K. in shield.	Black- letter cap. K in plain shield.	..	..	..	..	..	Dublin Harp crowned.	1894. Inscriptions added in 1844.
Patm. <i>Hanc potellam dedit Sacrique uni- bus dicanit Georgius Sandby, S.T.P. Ecclesie Dentonians R.</i>	—	E. F.	Roman small q in shield.	..	..	..	..	..	..	1791-2. Dr. Sandby, Chan- cellor of Norwich and Master of Magdalen Coll., Camb., was Rector from 1750 to 1807.
Patm. Plated waiter on three feet.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Patm. Plated. Ag- nus Dei in a six- foiled circle. On the edge: IN O O ESSE OBRIUS OBRIUS	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Presented by Archdeacon Bouverie.
Flagon. IHS in rays. On the foot: Ecclesiæ B.M.V. apud Denton N.P.E. LATI- BURY. A.M. Curatus MDCCLXVIII.	— not crowned.	C. T. F. G F	Black- letter cap. N in square shield.	..	..	..	..	..	..	1848-9.

PARISH.	PLATE: Inscriptions, &c.	MARKS.							DATE OF MANUFACTURE AND NOTES.
		Leopard's Head crowned.	Maker's Mark.	Date Letter.	Lion Passant.	Britannia.	Lion's Head crowned.	Governing's Head.		Provincial Town Mark.
DICKLE- BURGH.	Chalice. Circular band. ✠ DYCKEL- BOYSEH. T.F. W.A. REMEMBER GOD. No marks.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Circa 1667. Fine. "Pur- chased by the Pariah in Queen Elizabeth's time, together with a neat small salver for its cover."— Blomesfield, i. 200.
	Patn. (Cover to Chalice.) Circular band. DYCKEL- BOYSEH. No marks.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Circa 1667. Fine.
	Patn. Tho. Buxton, Gent. et Eliz. uxor, de Dickleburgh, Norf. 1697.	—	I. C.	Black- letter small s in shield.	—	..	..	..	1695-6. Buxton of Dickle- burgh and of Channon's Hall, Tibenham: now of Shadwell Court.
	Bagon. Ex dono Alicie Rant, 1707.	..	S L crown above, cinquefoil below.	Court- hand L in shield.	..	—	..	..	1706-7. Mark of Gabriel Sleath. Rant of Dickle- burgh.
	Flagon. To the Church of Dickle- burgh, 1715.	..	E and another letter (A?) in shield defaced.	Court- hand V in shield.	..	—	..	..	1715-16. Large.

Dress.	Chalice. Broad circular band. Round knob in middle of stem; marks repeated on the foot.	..	Orb and cross in lozenge.	A in square.	..	..	..	Norwich Castle and Lion.	1564-5. Large mark of Peter Peterson of Norwich. <i>Churchwardens' Accounts</i> , 1571-2: "Itm for a cover for y ^e communion cupp. ixs. vijd." Henry Erle and Willm Mannyng, Churchwardyns. <i>Inventorie</i> , 1572: "Itm one cupp of silver w th a cover to f ^y communion." <i>Ditto</i> , 1575: "conteyning in weyght xxij ounces of havardepace."
Chalice.	—	—	T. W	Black-letter cap.  in shield.	..	..	..	..	1762-3. Presented by Francis Cupiss, Churchwarden, 1880.
Patr. Die.	On the foot:	..	E B and a dolphin haurlant embowed below, in lobed shield.	Court-hand <i>Z</i> in shield.	..	—	..	..	1700-1.
Flagon. THE PARISH OF DISS IN THE COUNTY OF NORFOLK, 1706.	..	..	W l. fleur-de-lis below, in shaped shield.	Court-hand <i>K</i> in shield.	..	—	..	..	1705-6. Large. The mark of John Wisdome.

¹ Great-great-great-great-grandfather of the present Rector.

PARISH.	PLATE: Inscriptions, &c.	MARKS.							DATE OF MANUFACTURE AND NOTES.
		Lion's Head crowned.	Maker's Mark.	Date Letter.	Lion Passant.	Britannia.	Lion's Head erased.	Governess's Head.	
Diss.	Bish. THE PARISH OF DISS IN THE COUNTY OF NORFOLK, 1706.	..	Ditto.	Ditto.	..	—	—	..	1705-6.
	Bish. GIVEN TO THE CHURCH OF DISS IN NORFOLK, BY A CON- STANT ATTENDANT AT THE LORD'S TABLE, ANNO DOMINI, 1715.	..	Defaced.	Court- hand ∇ in shield.	..	—	—	..	1715-16.
	Spoon ("rat-tailed.") <i>Dis Church.</i>	..	W a stag's head above.	Ditto.	..	—	—	..	1715-16. Duplicate at Bil- lingford. The mark of Benjamin Watts.
	Knife. Silver handle, curved steel blade. <i>Dis Church.</i>	..	A. H.C. W. a crown and upright sword above (on blade.)	..	..	..	..	..	Duplicate at Billington. These were probably the gift of John Briars, M.A., Rector of both Parishes, died 1728. Blomefield says, "There is now (1736) belonging to this Church, a <i>chalice</i> , a cup, two silver dishes, a small plate, a spoon, and a silver hafted

PARISH.	PLATE: Inscriptions, &c.	MARKS.							DATE OF MANUFACTURE AND NOTES.
		Leopard's Head crowned.	Maker's Mark.	Date Letter.	Leon Punnett.	Britannia.	Leon's Head crowned.	Governor's Head.	Provincial Town Mark.
	Flagon. * <i>Sarah Gooch, D.D. Ecclesie de Earsham.</i> *	—	A mullet of six points above: a pear- shaped object below.	Italic small o in shield.	—	..	..	..	1631-2. Gooch of Earsham, now of Benacre.
FEES- FIELD.	Chalice. Circular band. Small cruci- form stamp as at Pulham St. Mary and Tivetshall.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	} Elizabethan.
	Patron. No marks.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Chalice. IHS in rays. * To the Service of the Most High God, for the use of the faithful inhabiting Fersfield, THIS CHALICE is de- dicated by their late Rector, Fra. Blome- field, Priest, who died 1751. R.I.P.	— not crowned.	J. A.	Roman small h in square.	—	..	..	..
						..	..	—	1823-4. Gilt. Fine. Repoussé work of foliage, lamb, and dove on foot.

FRENZE.	Patn. * To the Service of the Most High God, for the use of the faithful inhabiting Fensfield. THIS PATEN is dedicated by their late Rector, Fra. Blomefield, Priest, who died 1761. R.P.	— not crowned.	..	Ditto.	—	..	..	..	1823-4. Cover to chalice. Fine. Quatrefoil form, with repousé foliage. (I have not been able to discover why these were not provided until so long after Blomefield's death.)
	Flagon. (Pewter.)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Elizabethan. Good, small.
	Chalice. Circular band. No marks.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Patn. None.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
GISSING.	Flagon and Dish. (Pewter.)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Chalice. Circular band. GISSING ANNO 1567.	..	Trefoil slipped, in shield.	C in square.	..	..	..	Norwich Castle and Lion. 1567.	
	Patn. Head of Christ, rayed, within a six-foiled circle.	—	1.. (indistinct.)	Black-letter small & in shape.	..	..	..	..	1517-18?
	Dish. (Pewter.)	—	1. P. in shield.	Court-hand S?	..	..	..	..	A fourth mark, indistinct.

PARISH.	PLATE: Inscriptions, &c.	MARKS.								DATE OF MANUFACTURE AND NOTES.
		Leopard's Head crowned.	Maker's Mark.	Date Letter.	Lion Passant.	Britannia.	Lion's Head crowned.	Governer's Head.	Provincial Town Mark.	
HARLES- TON CHAPEL.	<i>Chalice.</i> IHS in rays.	— not crowned.	R. H.	Black- letter cap. H.	—	..	..	—	..	1844-5.
	<i>Patn.</i> IHS and nails in rays. EASTER, 1850.	..	E. W. Crown above.	Black- letter cap. B.	..	..	..	..	Dublin Harp crowned.	1724-5. Inscription added in 1850.
	<i>Patn.</i> IHS in rays. <i>Sacred to the Service</i> <i>of the Chapel of St.</i> <i>John the Baptist,</i> <i>Harleston. In mem-</i> <i>ory of WILLIAM. SAN-</i> <i>CROFT . HOLMES.</i> <i>Churchwarden. Born</i> <i>Oct. 22, 1815. Died</i> <i>Sept. 11th, 1849.</i> EASTER, 1850.	— not crowned.	C. T. F. G. F. in shaped shield.	Black- letter cap FF in circle.	—	..	..	—	..	1847-8. Presented by Mrs. Sancroft Holmes.
	<i>Flagon.</i> IHS in rays. (Same inscription as the last.)	Ditto.	Ditto.	Black- letter cap. Q in shield.	—	..	..	—	..	1849-50.

NEED- HAM.	3ms Bish. ffc in sexfoil. On the rim: *TO*DO*GOOD *AND*TO*DIS- TRIBUTE*FOR- GET*NOT. On the back: St. John the Baptist, Harle- ton, the gift of the Architect, 1872.	Ditto.	H. E. W. in quatre- foil.	Black- letter small r.	—	..	..	1872-3. Very fine.
	Chaltr. Circular band. No marks.	..	..	..	..	..	..	Elizabethan.
H	Patn.	— not crowned.	H. E. W. in trefoil.	Black- letter small q in rounded square.	—	..	..	1871-2.
	Bish (Pewter.) NEED- HAM.	..	..	..	..	..	..	Four marks. 1, Obscure. 2, Black-letter cap. B. 3, Lion rampant to sinis- ter. 4, P. T. and a mullet.
	Flagon (Pewter.) NEED- HAM (On handle.)	..	..	..	..	..	..

PARISH.	PLATE: Inscriptions, &c.	MARKS.							DATE OF MANUFACTURE AND NOTES.
		Leopard's Head crowned.	Maker's Mark.	Date Letter.	Lion Passant.	Britannia.	Lion's Head erased.	Boverton's Head.	Provincial Town Mark.
PULHAM St. MARY.	Chalitz. Circular band, p.m. Nomarks.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Elizabethan.
	Patn. p.m. Foot lost. (Small.)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Elizabethan. Three marks. 1, Four small heart-shaped or V-shaped stamps placed point to point, forming a cross — 2, H F in mono- gram in plain heraldic shield. 3, obscure.
	Patn. (Larger.) THE GIFT OF M ^{rs} . MARY WOOD TO THE TOWNE OF PULHAM S ^t . MARY THE VIRGIN. The foot re-soldered.	..	E. H. crowned four times repeated. — same on the foot.	..	..	..	..	..	An altar-tomb in church- yard to Mary, dau. of Augustine Wood, died 11 April, 1706.
	Flagon. DEO ET EC- CLESIE. S ^{ts} . MARIE DE PULHAM. NORFOL ^t . 1719.	..	E. A. in shaped shield.	Roman cap. C in shield.	..	—	—	..	1718-19.

PULHAM ST. MARY MAGDA- LENE.	Chalice. Circular band. PULHAM MAG- DALENE. A°. 1567.	..	Orb and cross in lozenge.	C in square.	..	..	..	..	Norwich Castle and Lion.	1567. The mark of Peter Peterson, as before.
	Patrn. PVLIVM MAG- DALEN (on the foot.) No rim.	..	Man's head crowned? in shield.	C in square.	..	..	..	..	Ditto.	1567.
	Flagon. PULHAM S. MARY MAGDALENE. Coat of arms and mantling: Azure, a chevron ermine be- tween three escallop shells arg., 1756.— (Townshend of Rain- ham.)	—	H. D.	Roman small u in shaped shield.	—	..	..	..	..	1755-6. Hon. and Rev. Edward Townshend, Rec- tor in 1756.
	Bisby. PULHAM S. MARY MAGDALENE. 1824. Salver on three feet.	..	S H	Court- hand F in shield.	..	—	..	..	..	1701-2. Date and in- scription added in 1824.
REDEN- HALL.	Chalice. TRIN: VNI: DEO: & Ecclesia de Reddenhall cum Ca- pella de Hartston. 1739.	—	R. G. a tree (?) between the letters.	Roman small d in shaped shield.	—	..	..	..	..	1739-40. Large. In MS. "note of Church Goods remaying in y ^e Churche of Reddenhall, año 1577." In Parish chest is the following: "It'm, a cuppe of sylv w ^t cover for y ^e comunicats."— <i>East Anglian</i> , iv. 54.

PARISH.	PLATE: Inscriptions, &c.	MARKS.							DATE OF MANUFACTURE AND NOTES.
		Leopard's Head crowned.	Maker's Mark.	Date Letter.	London Passant.	Britannia.	London's Head erased.	Sovereign's Head.	Provincial Town Mark.
REDEN- HALL.	Patn. Same in- scription.	—	M. a mullet above and below.	P. of uncertain type in plain heraldic shield.	— in ob- long.	..	..	..	1730-1.
	Flagon. Same in- scription.	—	R. G. a tree (?) between the letters.	Roman small d in shaped shield.	—	..	..	..	1739—40. Large.
	Wish, or Patn. Same inscription, 1743. Octagonal salver with perforated bor- der.	—	W. K. in oblong.	Roman small g in shaped shield.	—	..	..	..	1742-3.
	Basin. (Electro- plate.) This in centre of sexfoil. + God loberth a cheerful giber No. 193.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	E E in quatre- Marks, 1, B foil. 2, Roman cap. A in square. 3, Arms of City of Lon- don in square.

PARISH.	PLATE: Inscriptions, &c.	MARKS.								DATE OF MANUFACTURE AND NOTES.
		Leopard's Head crowned.	Maker's Mark.	Date Letter.	Lion Passant.	Britannia	Lion's Head crowned.	Governor's Head.	Provincial Town Mark.	
SCOLE.	Chalice. IHS. Pre- sented by John Ay- ton Esquire to the Church of Scole, Norfolk, 1834. G. Carley, Diss.	— not crowned.	W. K. R	Roman small t in shield.	—	..	..	—	..	1834-5.
	Patn. Same in- scription.	Ditto.	Ditto.	Ditto.	—	..	—	..	..	1834-5.
	Flagon. Ditto.	Ditto.	Ditto.	Ditto.	—	..	..	..	..	1834-5.
	Patn. Small.	Ditto.	I. J. K.	Black- letter small k in rounded square.	—	..	..	..	..	1865-6.
SHELF- HANGER.	Chalice. SHELF- HANGER, 1753. NO marks.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1753.
	Patn.	..	Ⓔ	Roman small s in plain heraldic shield.	..	—	—	..	Exeter City Arms: Per pale, a castle triple towered.	1718-19. Purchased in 1864. The mark is that of Peter Eliot of Dart- mouth.—Cripps, p. 123.

1718-19. Purchased in
1864. The mark is that
of Peter Eliot of Dart-
mouth.—Cripps, p. 123.

SHIM- LING.	Chalice. <i>Shimpling</i> in Norfolk, 1725.	..	E. A. in shaped shield, trefoil below.	Roman cap. G in shield.	..	—	—	..	1722-3.
	Patn. Same in- scription.	..	Ditto.	Roman cap. K in shield.	..	—	..	..	1725-6.
	Patn. Ditto.	..	Ditto.	Ditto.	..	—	..	..	1725-6.
	Bason. (Pewter.)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	A dove and olive branch on handle. Flemish (?)
STARSTON.	Chalice. Circular band. Fine. DEO SERVATORI SACRVM. No marks.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1567. Archbishop San- croft's plate. See note (2) p 109.
	Patn. (Cover to fore- going.) 1567. No marks. Foot re- soldered.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1567. These pieces are preserved in their origi- nal stamped leather case.
	Patn. Deo Serva- tori Sacrum.	—	S. D. in square (same on small a the foot.) in shield.	Black- letter small a	—	..	..	..	1691-2.
	Chalice. Deo Serva- tori Sacrum Eocl. de Starston, Com. Norff.	..	T. G.	Black- letter small n? in shield.	—	..	..	..	1690-1?

PARISH.	PLATE: Inscriptions, &c.	MARKS.							DATE OF MANUFACTURE AND NOTES.
		Leopard's Head crowned.	Maker's Mark.	Date Letter.	Lion Passant.	Britannia.	Lion's Head crested.	Boverton's Head.	Provincial Town Mark.
STANSTON.	Patn. S. Deo et Ecclesie de Stan- ton in Com. Norff. 1721.	..	E. A. and a pellet.	Roman cap. E in shield.	..	—	—	..	1720-1. Foot re-soldered.
	Flagon.	—	C E G. F.	Black- letter cap. ff.	—	..	..	..	1865-6.
	Bish.	—	I. K.	Black- letter small k.	—	..	..	..	1847-8.
THELVE- TON.	Chalice. Thelveton in Norfolk, 1722.	..	E. A. trefoil below in shaped shield.	Roman cap. G in shield.	..	—	—	..	1722-3.
	Patns. Two, plated.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Flagon. Plated. THELVE- TON, Nor- folk, 1879.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

THORPE ABBOTTS.	Chalice. Plain.	—	R. B. in square.	Lombardic K in square.	—	..	..	1607-8.
	Patn. Plated.	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Patn or Dish (Pew- ter.) Circular stamp, RICH. nearly obliterated.	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Flagon (Pewter.)	..	..	..	..	..	..
TIVETS- HALL ST. MARY.	Chalice. Circular band. Small cru- ciform stamp as at Pulham St. Mary.	..	..	..	..	..	..	Elizabethan. Good. Prob- ably 1573.
	Patn. Cover to chalice. On the foot: 1573. TERSAL. No marks.	..	..	..	..	..	..	1573.
	Dish. Engraved waiver, plated. Du- plicate at St. Mar- garet's.	..	..	..	..	..	..
TIVETS- HALL ST. MAR- GARET.	Chalice. TITSEL SAINT MARGITS. Same cruciform stamp as at St. Mary's.	..	..	..	..	..	..	Elizabethan.

*Sale of the Old Church Plate of Diss to Henry Ratcliff,
Second Earl of Sussex, 1546.*

[Referred to p. 93.]

The following are the documents referred to by Blomefield (i. 28) respecting this transaction. The Earl was lord of the manor and patron. By the bond here printed, which, with the letter following, is preserved among some court-rolls and other papers belonging to the rectory, he agreed, August 15th, 1546, to give the inhabitants twenty marks for their plate; and in the letter dated from his manor of Attleburgh, July 25th, 1547, he desires to have the preferment of such portion more as should be sold, for which he would recompense them and theirs. Blomefield says, "I never could meet with an account of the plate, but do not doubt but that it was fine and valuable, else so great a man as the Earl would never have thought it worth his while to trouble himself about it. I find that they sold all so far that in 1572 they had only one cup of 23 oz. weight."

"This bill made the xvth day of August in the first yere of the Reigne of o^r most dread soveraigne Lord Edward the Sixe by the grace of god king of England ffraunce and Irlond defender of the faith and in earth of the church of England and Irlond Supreme Heade, witnesseth that I Henry Erle of Sussex do [owe] unto Robt. Huntt John ffolser thelder Rog. ffolser Willm Davie hugh Aldred and Robt. fuller Inhabitantts of the towne of Disse twentie mks sterling for cer . . . plate bought of them and other thinhabitants of the seid towne. To be paydd unto the seid Robt. Hunt or one of them aforenamed ther Executors or administrati that is to say, therof in the feast of Easter which shalbe in the yere of our Lord god m^{clj} Six pounds xij^s. iiij^d. s^t. And in the feast of S^t. Michell tharchangell then next & immediatelie folowing other Six powndes xij^s. iiij^d. s^t. To w^{ch} payment well and trulie to be made, I bind me my Heires Executors and Administratours by thies ptes. In witnes wherof I the seid Erle have signed this bill with my owne hande, and sette my seale the day and yere first above menc'oned.

"HENRY SUSSEX."

In the letter following Blomefield has mistaken the date for 1587. The old form of 4 in Arabic numerals, half an eight, has misled him.

"I comende me unto you. And wheras I have alredy receyved part of the Towne plate of Dyse, and as I doute not but that you thenhabytants there are right confirmable & well contented that I shulde have the p'ferment therof & of the sale of such porcon more as may be utterde & solde at a convenyent & more resonable p'ce then any other because you bere yo' good herts & lovyge myndes towards me theryn, gyvyng you therfor right herty thanks ffor the wiche also I am mynded & shalbe contented to appoynt my warrunt^e to be directed to my ballyff there & other my officers to be p^d & satsysfied ev'y half yere suche Some as shalbe agreed & det'myned for the same out of my Revenues of my manor of dyse aforesaid. Wherfor I requ . . . & desyr you & ev'y of you of thenhabytants & honest discrete the same Towne assemblynge y'selves together, that you shall take suche order & steye for the p'ce & dayes of payment for the seid plate as I may have juste cause to yelde unto you thankes fo' yo' seid gentill good wylls wiche I have alredy ben enformed of, and lyke as I have confydence in all yo' good herts towards me heryn, evyn so I wolde be sory to understonde that any of you shuld by the fyrther avawncynge of the thinge hyndre me in the same. Not doughtyng but that you wyll weigh and ponder the same at my hands to be therafter recompensed in soche sort as I may do to you and yours good and thus adv'tyzyng me of yo' det'myned myndes heryn by my feithfull s'vnt & surveyo' whome I have apoynted in my behalf & for that p'pose to make relacon unto me as well of yo' names as also of yo' pcedyng w' yo' seid good wyll for thanks to be rendred accordyngly. I bydde you all farewelle. ffrom my man' of Attilburgh the xxvth of July, 1547.

"Yo' lovyng & assured good lord,

"HENRY SUSSEX."

Note (2) page 103. These three pieces were the private communion plate of Archbishop Sancroft (born at Fressingfield 1616, died there 24th November, 1693.) In the Starston Parish Register is the following: "A Copy of a Parish Order, agreed at a Parish Meeting this 2 day of Dec., 1742, that the thanks of the Minister, Churchwardens, and Inhabitants of the parish of Starston be given to M^{rs}. Sancroft for her late handsome present of plate to the said Parish Church, consisting of one silver chalice & cover, & of one silver patin, & that D^r. Williams be deputed to wait upon the said Lady, & in the name of the Parish to present the same to her.

"Ph. Williams, Rector of the Parish.

"N.B.—The above communion plate was the private communion plate of the late Archbishop after his deprivation in his Chappel at Frissingfield: the inscription upon the side of the cup, & upon the rim of the patin, DEO SERVATORI SACRUM: upon the top of the cover, 1567: the weight of all above 20 ounces; the Lady who gave it Catharine widow of W^m. Sanoroft, Esq., & 4th daughter of S^r John Cotton, Baronet."

On the next page: "A Parish Order in the same form was made Dec. 27, 1742, to return Miss Catherine Sancroft, 2nd daughter of the before named W^m. and Catharine Sancroft, the thanks of the Minister, Churchwardens, & Inhabitants for a present made by her to the Communion Table of one fine Damask Table Cloath, & of one Damask Napkin on which is woven the story of the Good Samaritan pouring oil & wine into the Traveller's wounds. It is marked W. S. & the Table Cloath is a Forest piece & marked W. C."

The Archbishop died unmarried. The lady above-mentioned was the wife of his great-nephew, William Sancroft, Esq., of Exning, whose sister Elizabeth married John Wogan, Esq., of Gawdy Hall, Redenhall. A branch of the Cotton family had a seat in Starston parish in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries.

The following Extracts from the Returns of the Commissioners as to Church Goods, 6 Edward VI., already mentioned, show the amount of plate then in the Deanery of Redenhall.

[Public Record Office. Norfolk Church Goods, 6 Edward VI., vols. iii., iv., v.; Nos. 501, 502, and 503, Augmentation Office.]

Aldeberghe. One chales wth a paten sylver
 pcell gylte weyinge xij unnces & evy } xliiij^s
 ounce valewed at iiij^s viij^d

The chalice assigned for service.
 The edge of the paper being destroyed,
 it is not certain whether the paten was
 included with it.

Byllingford. A chales wth a patent whyt sylver } l^s (sic) has
 weying xiiij unce dī & evy unce valued at } been
 iiij^s iiij^d } altered.

Assigned for service. The chalice
 "weying xiiij unces."

Breasyngham. On challes percell gylt w^t a }
 patten wayeng vj ounces, evy ounce at } xxij^s
 iiij^s viij^d

Assigned for service.

Brockdyshe. No silver vessels.

Byrston. One chaleys wythe a patyn of sylv }
 pcell gylt weying vij unce at iiij^s viij^d } xxv^s viij^d
 the ounce

Both assigned for service.

Denton. One chales w^t a patent of silver pcell
 gilt conteyning x ownc^e at iijs viij^d the } xxxvj^s viij^d
 ownc^e }
 Both assigned for service.

Dekylbought. ij payer of chalys w^t too patyns }
 of sylvⁿ gylt weying xxviij ounce^e and half } vj^{li} xxiij^d
 a q^r^{ty} at iijs viij^d the ounce }
 A chalice and paten assigned for service.

Diss. One payer of chales of sylvⁿ and gylt }
 w^t the patent conteyneng xx^{ty} unce^e at } iijs xxijs iiiij^d
 iijs viij^d the unce }
 Assigned for service.

Ersham. One chaleis wth a paten sylvⁿ pcell }
 gilte weyng^e xiiij ounces evy unce valewed } lj^s iiiij^d
 at iijs viij^d }
 Assigned for service.

Fersfeld. j chalys w^t the patyne of silvⁿ pcell }
 gilte weyng^e xij ounce^e the on^{ce} at iijs viij^d } xliiij^s
 Both assigned for service.

Gyssynge. One challys wth a patayne¹ of }
 sylver pcell gylte wayinge xv ownnces. } lv^s
 The ounce at iijs viij^d }
 Both assigned for service.

Needham. Not mentioned. [Being a chapel to Mendham,
 Suffolk, it would be returned in a different Hundred.]

¹ No doubt the same paten as now in use.

Pulham Mary. Too chaleyces wth patents of
 sylvⁿ pcell gylt weying xxxviij owncē & di } vj^{li} xix^s iiij^d
 wherof one wayeth xxj owncē & y^e other } (sic)
 xvij owncē & dī & evy unce valued at
 iij^s viij^d. One pax of sylvⁿ pcell gylt }
 wayeing iiij^{or} unce & evy unce valued at } xiiij^s viij^d
 iij^s viij^d }

The chalice weighing 17 ounces as-
 signed for service.

Pulham Magdalen. One chalys of sylvⁿ percyll }
 gylt of vij ounces evy owncē valued at } xxv^s viij^d
 iij^s viij^d }

Assigned for service.

Reddenhall. One chales wyth the paten of }
 sylvⁿ & holl gilt weyng xvj owncē dī & di } iiij^{li} xij^s ob
 q̄t² the owncē valued at iiij^s iiij^d . . . }

Roydon. A chales w^t a patyne of sylver pcell }
 gylte weyeng viij owncē iij q̄r² valued at } xxxij^s j^d
 iij^s viij^d the ounce }

The chalice only assigned for service.

Rusale. A chales w^t a paten of sylvⁿ nat gilt }
 weyng x ounces dī at iij^s iiij^d the owncē . } xxxv^s

Assigned for service.

Scole. No plate.

Shelfanger. A chales w^t a patyne of Sylver }
 pcell gylte weyeng ix owncē iij q̄r² valued } xxxv^s ix^d
 at iij^s viij^d the ounce }

Chalice only assigned for service.

² I.e. 16 $\frac{3}{4}$ ounces.

Shimpling. ij caleis silv one weinge vj ounce } xxxvj^s viij^d
 the other iiij ounce evy ounce iij^s viij^d . }
 One pax silv pcell gylte Inameled weinge } vij^s iiiij^d (*sic*)
 vj ounce evy onnce at iij^s viij^d . . . }
 The smaller chalice assigned for service.

Starston. One chalesse w^t a patent of sylv }
 pcell gylt weyeng xiiij onnce & evy onnce } xlvij^s viij^d
 valued at iij^s viij^d }
 Assigned for service.

Thelcton. No return.

Thorpp Abbat. A chales pcell gylte wth a }
 patent waying vj unces & evy unce valued } xxiij^s
 at iij^s viij^d }
 Assigned for service.

Tivettsale S'ce Marie. On challes w^t a patten }
 of sylv percell gylt wayeng viij onnces at } xxviij^s viij^d
 iij^s viij^d onnce } (*sic*)
 Assigned for service.

Tivetsale S'ce Margarete. On challes w^t a }
 patten percell gylt wayeng v ounces di } xx^s ij^d
 evy ounce at iij^s viij^d }
 Assigned for service.

Wynfarthyng. On chales w^t a patyne of sylver }
 pcell gylte weyeng xj ounce at iij^s viij^d } xl^s iiiij^d
 the ounce }
 Chalice only assigned for service.

Charter of Sir Thomas Erpingham and another,

FEOFFEES FOR THE LORD DE MORLEY,

*Dated 25th March, 8 Henry V., in the possession of the
Rev. Henry Wright of Thuxton.*

COMMUNICATED BY

G. A. CARTHEW, ESQ., F.S.A., M.A.I.

OF Sir Thomas Erpingham, the first party to the Indenture copied and translated below, I can say nothing that is not well known both to citizens of Norwich as the founder of the Erpingham Gate, and to all readers of English history in Shakspeare as "good old knight," and "old Sir Thomas Erpingham." (*King Henry V.*) His seal attached to it is of great beauty. Although an important party to this deed, he had no other interest in the manors and property which were affected by it than as a feoffee or trustee, jointly with Richard Drewe (the other conveying party), Henry late Lord Bishop of Norwich (Henry de Spenser the famous warrior), and others deceased, whose names are not given, for Thomas, a former Lord Morley, under a deed dated on Thursday after the Feast of St.

Margaret, in the second year of King Henry IV., answering to the 21st of July, 1401. This Thomas Lord Morley was summoned to Parliament from 1381 (5 Richard II.) to 4 Henry V. (1415), in which year he died, leaving Anne his second wife, daughter of Edward Lord Despenser and widow of Sir Hugh Hastings of Elsing; his estate descending to Thomas Lord Morley his grandson, then twenty-eight years of age, (Sir Robert Morley the eldest son having died in his father's lifetime) subject to the dower of his grandmother Anne, which entitled her to a life interest in one-third.

Isabella, the wife of Thomas the grandson, was a daughter of Michael de la Pole, Duke of Suffolk, and thereupon he called upon his feoffees to make a regrant and resettle the estate, which they carried into effect by the deed now produced, on the 25th of March, in the eighth year of King Henry V., which was the first day of the year of our Lord 1420 (old style), the limitation being to Thomas the party and Isabella and their lawful issue; but, in default of such issue, to the right heirs of Thomas the grandfather. At the time of his death, 14 Henry VI., 1435, he and Isabella were jointly seized of the estate. They were both buried in Hingham Church, we are told, under the fine inarched monument in the north wall.

Robert Lord Morley, his son, who was sixteen years old at his father's death, in the same year confirmed to Isabel his mother all her right in the manor and advowson of Hingham, and the fishery called Semer', and manors and advowsons of Aldby or Alby,¹ Hokering, Folsham, Morley Swanton, and the hundreds of Eynsford and Forehoe, with the advowsons of Brandon Parva, Bintre, Mateshalle Burgh, and Hadisco Thorpe, almost all of which are mentioned and included in the charter now produced.

¹ Alby is in South Erpingham Hundred.

By the marriage of Alienora, the daughter and heir of this Robert, who died in 1442, with William Lovel, the barony and estates came into the Lovel family, who were also owners of the manor and estate of East Harling, which afterwards passed by purchase into the family of Wright, and with it apparently a great many old charters and deeds relating to other property besides Harling, which are now in the possession of a descendant, the Rev. Henry Wright, who has kindly permitted me to lay this deed before you, and to make a copy and translation of it.

Of Richard Drewe, the other conveying party, all I know is from Blomefield, who says that a person of that name was bailiff of the city of Norwich in 1398, sheriff in 1406, and mayor in 1412.

The following is a verbatim copy of the deed :—

Sciant p̄sentes ⁊ futuri qd nos Thomas Erpyngnam miles ⁊ Ricus Drewe concessimus dimisimus tradidimus ⁊ hac presenti carta triptita ⁊ indenta^l confirmauimus Thome dno de Morlee ⁊ Isabelle uxori eius duas ptes manerioꝝ de Aldeby ⁊ Hokeryng cum ptinentiis in comitatu Norff. duas ptes cuiusdam piscarie in Hengham vocat Semer' ac duas ptes hundr^o de Eynesford in eodem comitat^e cum ptinentiis una cum reversione tam ꝑcie ptis predci manij de Aldeby ⁊ ꝑcie ptis predci manerii de Hokeryng ⁊ tercię ptis predict piscarie qm̄ tercię ptis predci hundr^o post mortem Anne nup vxoris Thome nup dni de morlee aui predci Thome nunc dni de morlee que predcas tertias ptes tenet in dotem suam ex dotacione predci Thome nup dni de morlee simul cum advocacionibus Prioratum ⁊ eccliaꝝ de Henhgm̄ Brandon Folsham Byntre Hokeryng mateshale Bergh ⁊ Hadesco Thorpp cum ptinentiis in comitat^e pedco cum omnibus dñijs waren̄ libertatibus visib^z franciplegg redditibus ⁊ serviciis tam liboꝝ qm̄ natioꝝ homaꝝ relev' escaetis cuꝛ sect cuꝛ

molendiñ villañ cum eoꝝ villenaḡ moris mariscis turbañ
 aquis piscar̃ viis semitis cum omnibus aliis commoditatibus
 ⁊ ptin quibuscunq; dcis maneriis piscarie ⁊ hundred aut
 reuersionibus predcis qualitercumq; spectantibus siue ptinent̃.
 Que quidem maneria piscaria hundred advocaciones cum
 omnibus ptinentiis suis predcis nos prefati Thomas Erpyngham
 ⁊ Ricus Drew vna cum Henrico nup Epo Norwiceñ ⁊ aliis
 iam defunctis iñ alia huimus ex dono ⁊ feoffamento predci
 Thome nup dni de morlee p cartam suam cui dat
 est apud Aldeby die Jouis px post festum sce margarete
 virginis Anno regni Regis Henrici quarti post conquestum
 3do Heñd ⁊ tenend̃ predict̃ duas ptes manioꝝ piscarie
 ⁊ hundred predcoꝝ reuersiones ⁊ advocaciones prioratum ⁊
 eccliaꝝ cum omnibus ptinent̃ suis predcis pdcis Thome nunc
 dno de Morlee ⁊ Isabelle ⁊ heredibus de corporibus eoꝝ
 legitie exeunt de capiñ dnis feod ill' p seruis inde debit' ⁊
 de iur̃ consuef. Ita qd si contingat predcos Thomam nunc
 dñm de Morlee ⁊ Isabellam sine herede de corporibus eoꝝ
 legitie exeuñ obire qd tñc predce due ptes manerioꝝ
 piscarie ⁊ hundred predcoꝝ reuersiones ⁊ advocaciones prior-
 atum ⁊ eccliaꝝ cum omnibus ptinent̃ suis predcis remaneant
 rectis heredibus predci Thome nup dni de morlee Tenend
 sibi ⁊ heredibus suis imppm de capiñ dnis feod ill' p suic̃
 inde debit' ⁊ de iur̃ consuef imppuū. In cuius rei testimoniū
 tam uni parte presentis carte penes dcos Thomam nunc dnm
 de morlee ⁊ Isabellam ⁊ heredes suos predict̃ reman qm
 alteri pti eiusdem carte penes rectos heredes predci Thome
 nup dni de morlee reman nos predci Thomas Erpyngham
 ⁊ Ricus Drewe sigilla nra apposuimus, tertie vero pti
 eiusdem carte penes nos remañ predci Thomas nunc dns
 de Morlee ⁊ Isabella sigilla sua apposuerunt Dat' vicesimo
 quinto die marcii Anno regni Regis Henrici quinti post
 conquestum octauo.

Two seals are appended: the first, circular, one inch and

four-fifths in diameter, on which is a shield inclined under a heaume and mantel, crested by a pyramid of feathers or leaves issuing out of a ducal crown, and supported on each side by an eagle or falcon with wings expanded. The bearing on the shield is an inescutcheon within an orle of martlets. The legend, *Sigill. thome erpyngham*. The second, a small circle containing a foliated cross between apparently two annulets (P) on the dexter side, and two martlets on the sinister or, between four annulets. Both are unfortunately somewhat obliterated, but as accurately as can be are lithographed in the accompanying illustration.

TRANSLATION.

Know, living and to come, that we, *Thomas Erpyngham*, Knight, and *Richard Drewe*, have granted, demised, delivered, and by this present deed indented, in three parts, confirmed to Thomas *Lord de Morlee* and *Isabella* his wife two parts of the manors of *Aldeby* and *Hokeryng*, with their appurtenances, in the county of Norfolk, two parts of a fishery in *Hengham* called *Semere*, and two parts of the hundred of *Eynesford* in the same county, with the appurtenances, together with the reversion of the other third part of the aforesaid manors of *Aldeby* and *Hokeryng*, and the third part of the aforesaid fishery, as also the third part of the aforesaid hundred, after the death of Anne late wife of Thomas Lord de Morlee, grandfather of the said Thomas now Lord de Morlee, which said third parts she holds in dower from the endowment of the aforesaid Thomas late Lord de Morlee, together with the advowsons of the priories and churches of *Hingham*, *Brandon*, *Folsham*, and *Bintre*, *Hokeryng*, *Mateshale Bergh*, and *Hadesco Thorp*, with the appurtenances in the same county, with all lordships, warrens, liberties, views of frank-pledge, rents and services both of freemen and bondmen, homages, reliefs, escheats, courts, suit of court, mills, villans with their villenages,



SEALS TO A CHARTER OF SIR THOMAS ERPINGHAM.



moors, marshes, turbaries, waters, fisheries, ways, paths, and all other commodities and appurtenances to the said manors, fishery, and hundred, or reversions aforesaid, whatsoever belonging or appertaining. Which said manors, fishery, hundred, advowsons, with all their appurtenances, we the aforesaid Thomas Erpingham and Richard Drewe, together with Henry late Bishop of Norwich and others now deceased, had from the grant and feoffment of the aforesaid Thomas late Lord de Morlee, by deed dated at Aldeby on Thursday after the festival of St. Margaret the Virgin,² in the second year of the reign of King Henry the Fourth after the Conquest. To have and to hold the said two parts of the manors, fishery, and hundred aforesaid, reversions, advowsons of priories and churches, with every of their appurtenances, to the aforesaid Thomas present Lord de Morlee and Isabella, and the heirs of their bodies lawfully issuing, of the capital lords of that fee by the services therefore due and of right accustomed. Provided, if the said Thomas now Lord de Morlee and Isabella shall happen to die without heirs of their bodies lawfully issuing, then the aforesaid two parts of the manors, fishery, and hundred aforementioned, reversions and advowsons of priories and churches, with all their appurtenances, shall remain to the right heirs of the said Thomas late Lord de Morlee, to hold to them and their heirs for ever of the chief lords of that fee by the services therefore due and of right accustomed for ever. In witness whereof, as well to one part of this present charter to remain in the custody of the said Thomas now Lord de Morlee and Isabella and their heirs as aforesaid, as to another part of the same to remain in the custody of the right heirs of the aforesaid Thomas late Lord de Morlee, we the said Thomas Erpyngham and Richard Drewe have affixed our seals; but to a third part of the

² St. Margaret, 20 July.

same charter remaining in our custody the aforesaid Thomas now Lord de Morlee and Isabella have affixed their seals. Dated the twenty-fifth day of March, in the eighth year of the reign of King Henry the Fifth after the Conquest.

Indorsed—

Carta de Halby, Hokeryng et Eynysforth.

And in a later hand—

The mannors of Aldbye, Hockeringe,
Hinghñ mere & divers advowsons.

EXTRACTS

FROM

Papers in the Church Chest of Wyndham.

COMMUNICATED BY

G. A. CARTHEW, ESQ., F.S.A., M.A.I., &c.

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS.

BEFORE their dissolution in the reign of King Edward VI. there was scarcely a parish that had not its *Gild*, and many parishes had several, but of their organisation and management we have but scant information. As gilds and other friendly societies are being much revived throughout the country, any such information derived from those of ancient times may be interesting. Blomefield, indeed, gives us a list of the Norwich gilds, with their history. But there were two classes of gilds: a higher class, of trade or merchants' gilds or companies (and such were those of Norwich), and a lower class, more in the nature of the friendly clubs and burial societies of the present day. The best treatise that I am acquainted with

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on the subject is contained in *English Gilda*, published by the Early English Text Society in 1870, giving the several ordinances of more than one hundred English gilda, of which forty-six are Norfolk ones, edited by the late Mr. Toulmin Smith, with an introduction and glossary by his daughter; to which is appended an Essay on the History and Development of Gilda, by Dr. Brentano. In Richards' *History of Lynn*, also, the rules and ordinances of some of the Lynn gilda, with lists of their goods and ornaments, are fully set forth; and I must not omit a reference to what is said about them in Sharon Turner's *History of the Anglo-Saxons*.

Some years since I was kindly permitted by the churchwardens of Wymondham to examine the curious records in their church chest, amongst which I found several manuscript books containing the accounts of the receipts and expenditure of several gilda, established in that town, for successive years, with the rules and ordinances by which some of them were regulated. From these I made copious extracts, which I intended for publication by our Society, but for some reason or other, probably on account of their length, we being at that time too full of matter, that was not carried out, and I sent them instead to the Society of Antiquaries, whose Council intimated the intention of publishing them in their *Archæologia*. That has not yet been done; and having returned the manuscript books to their proper custody, I have now no reference to their contents. It appears, however, that I neglected to return a parcel of loose unbound papers, part of the same collection, which turned up the other day. These I find, on examination, to contain matter of the like nature as those I have mentioned, chiefly relating to a society called the "Fraternity or Brotherhood of our Lady in the Chapel," that is, one of the chapels in Wymondham Church.

The first, which sets forth the objects of the society,

with its rules and ordinances, I have copied in full. From the next, containing accounts of their receipts and expenditure, I have made such extracts as serve to exemplify their economy and management, and throw some light upon the social life and customs of the period. These accounts shew that the expenses of the society were partly defrayed from the profits arising from an annual frolic called a *Drinking*: in preparation for which a certain quantity of malt was given by one of the brothers, or by two or more who clubbed together for the purpose, and which was brewed into beer (most of the societies having brewing utensils as part of their goods), which was paid for by the members present and partaking of it, much after the same manner as, I believe, at the *tea-fights* of temperance and other like societies at the present day. Another source of income was the profit derived from cows belonging to the society and let out for hire. It does not appear that milk was drank at their public potations.

I have also copied the minutes for one year of the proceedings of the *Gild of St. George*, from a single sheet, probably accidentally detached from one of the books I have mentioned.

Another of these papers relates to the revenues of an association of a very different nature, in fact a kind of amateur theatrical society,—perhaps the mysteries which were common at that time. Yet there is no allusion to anything sacred, and we see they had a giant, and from some of the items we may almost fancy a giant-killer.

There are one or two other short papers; and, lastly, accounts of expenditure attending the restoration, perhaps removal, of what is still known as Becket's Chapel.

With these are several copies of court-rolls of the manors in Wyndham, of which some of the gilds held copyholds; of the admissions of trustees, and the transfers of their endowments to the Free School there.

BROTHERHOOD OF OUR LADY'S LIGHT.

Rules and Ordinances of the Society.

In y^e hono^{ur} and worshyppe of y^e blessyd vyrgyn mary & in y^e hono^r of all y^e blyssyd company of hevyn whe have a bretherwoode gatheryd in y^e townshyppe of Wymondh^m wyche brey'woode ys calyd y^e bretherwoode of y^e lyght of our lady in y^e chappell.

And if whe whose gydys and rewlars of thys foreseyd bretherwoode to goune and rewle ytt to y^e hono^{ur} of god and our blyssyd lady what brothyr or sist^r be a geyn them rebell geyn say or dysgrace thyr estats xall pay to thys brethyrwoode iiij^{li}. of waxe.

Also it is ordeynyd y^t all y^e brethers and systers of y^e seyde bretherwode of y^e lyght of oure lady xall come to gethar y^e sonday nexte aft^r whytesonday and chose all offycers y^t long to thys seyde breth^rode and what brother wyll nott thyr offyce that y^e be leyde to xall pay to thys fraⁿnyte iiij^{li}. of waxe or ellys to be p^usuyd in crysten coyrte and ther at y^e seyde day to raken and cownte all y^e stoke and p^rfyts of y^e seyde fraⁿnyte.

Also it is ordeynyd y^t when any brother or systyr be de^ptyd y^t eu^ely brother and syster xall be att y^e pysshe chyrche att y^e messe of re^qme for them y^t be de^ptyd and they for to be assygnyd of y^e day of kepyng by y^e bedell & ther to offer a \bar{q} [one farthing] a pece and to sey our lady's sawtyr or cause it to be seyde in y^e peyne of a *li*. of waxe.

Also it is ordeynyd y^t eu^ely brother & syster xall on y^e sonday aft^r whytesonday come and pay all ther dutyes & offeryngs y^t be owyng to thys breth^rwoode or be behynde in y^e yer paste—pena ut sup^a.

Also it ordeynyd y^t non of y^e brothers and systers xall plete w^t othyr for no man^r of cawse tyll ye rewlars and hyr

counsell hathe pyvd to make an ende & unyte & love be twyne ptyes and if y^t may not make an ende y^ei may take y^e comon lawe and ho deny thys xall pay iiij*li*. of waxe.

Also it is ordeynyd whatt brother or syster come in to thys brotherwode xall pay all y^e rewlers & they may accorde & at y^e leste for y^e comyng in xvjd.

Also it ordeynyd what brothyr or syst^r y^t hath any catell or stocke of thys breth'woode or of deds quethewoode¹ xall bryng them y^e sonday aft^r whyte sonday and who do not xall dobyll y^e thyng wthholden.

Also it is ordenyd that eu^{ry} brother & syster in this bretherwoode shall geve & paye yerly at our drynkyng to the use of thys fratⁿitie jd. and whoo dothe denye or fayleth in paying the same shall pay to the p^{ro}pose of thys fratⁿite ij*li*. of waxe.

Boia fr̄m. et soroz lucis Beataz Mariaz in capella.

Here is a list of one hundred and twenty-four names, headed by that of "R. magist^r Johes Drye, vicarius," "M. Robert^r Nelyng, capellan^r," twenty-two of them being wives, beside eighteen other females. The names, also, of Dns. Adam Buschoppe, capellan^r, Dns. Ricus Rowse, Dns. Johes Symonds, Dns. Robt^r Frosdyk, Ricus Pynnys, capell^r, Thoms. Waschyngton, clic^r, and Johes Pynchon, capell^r, occur in the list, which also contains those of Johes. Knygth alias Ket, Jonas Kett, sen., Will^r Lombe,² jun.

In the 30th Henry VIII. eleven more names were added, two being wives.

The foregoing is all written on seven pages of paper, on four leaves, endorsed.

¹ Quethewood, a legacy.

² Which proves that the family of this name was resident in Norfolk at an earlier period than supposed.

This is the accompte made by Thomas Sendell & John Kensy the yongar husbonds for the light of our blessed lady in the chapell the xxvjth day of August in y^e yer of our lord god m'ccccxxvijth and the yer of our s^{ou}len lord King Henry the viijth the xxth.

It. reč vijs. iiij^d. of a drynkyng made by Richard Kedall Richard Plom^r & Reynold Hemblyng.

It. reč iijs. iiij^d. for y^e fferme of ij melchenette³ in the ferme⁴ of John Make at the Fest of all seints next ensuyng the date of thys acompte.

It. xxd. for y^e fferme of a cowghe in the ferme of John Kett.

It. iiij^d. for the light latyn to the obite of Willm. Wurlington.

Resolu^t. Inp^{ts} iijs. iiij^d. p certitud hui^e gilde. It. ij^d. to y^e belman kepyng y^e lyght. It. ix^s. for wax & y^e makyng. It. xiiij^d. for y^e obite of youngman.

Eleccio (electors to offices, committee, or governing body)—

Dñs Adam Besthorp	Robt ^r Wiseman	Franciscus Gedney
Dñs Johes Symonds	Robt ^r Wekers	Andreas Kerby
Willm ^r Knyght	Johes Colyour	Robts. Day
Johes Joby	Thom ^r Yongman	Ricus Kedell

They have chose for thar husbonds the yer folowyng Thoms Sendell, Johes Kensy, Willm^r Kett, Franciscus Gedney.

This is the acompte made by Thom^r Sendall, Willm. Kett, & Francesce Gedney husbonds for the light of our blessed lady in the chapell of the parishe church of Wymondl^hm in the day of the decollacion of Saint John in y^e yer of our lord m'ccccxxxth. De potat⁷, rec⁷ vijs. of

³ Cows in milk.

⁴ Hirs.

a drynkyng made by Frances Gedney, Henry Dyman, & Robt. Wiseman. It. ix^s. iiij^d. of a drynkyng made by Robt. Mechell, John Sygar, and Willm. Moore. It. ix^s. of a drynkyng made by John Bale & his wyffe & Robt. Elyott & his wyff. It. xij^d. of the bequest of Mavd Burges. It. xij^d. of the bequest of Roger Burges. It. iiij^d. of John Dyñ for the light. It. of Agnes Thord in pte of payment of xvjd. for her comyng in. It. xvjd. of John Kett thelder in full payment for his comyng in. It. vjd. of John Harold in pte of payment of xxd. & so he ow xiiij^d. It. xvjd. of y^e bequest of Richard Kedell for hys wyfe. It. rec. iiij^s. of John Male for the ferme of ij mylche nete. It. ij^s. of John Polle for the ferme of a cowe.

It. xxd. of John Kett thyonger for the ferme of a cowe.

Inde resolut. Inp^{is} payd iijs. iiij^d. for y^e certen. It. payd vijs. ob. for wax and y^e makyng. It. iijs. for ij new candyllstyks w^t y^e peynting of y^e same. It. vjs. ix^d. ob. for h're y^e repacon of y^e ston crosse in the churche yard w^t ston to the same. [Two sums of xiiij^d. and two of xvjd. for "obites."] It. xs. for a cowe bowght, now in y^e farme of John Poles.

Et sic reč cū arterraĝ excedñt solut xxxjs. unde petñt allocari de xxd. p firma uniu^s (wuis) vacce in firma Johis Kett jun^r. It. petñt allocari de vij^d. solut in expens' ad potačõem Francissi Gedney et sic remanet in manibz computař ad usū Frat^{at} istius clare xxvijs. ix^d.

Eleccio in a^o pscripto—

Dñs Adam Bischopp }	Robt ^s Wiseman sen.	Reginald ^s Hemlyn
Dñs Johes Symonds }	Johes Joby	Johes Male
capelli		
Johes Bale	Henric ^s Multon	Robt ^s Dey
Robt ^s Elyott	Ricus Plomer	Willm ^s Burges

Elegerunt p dispensatoribz hui^s lūis p a^o seqñ Thom^s Sendell, Willm^s Kett, Franciscus Gedney, Robtus Elyott, et Preco Johes Joby.

Compotus, &c., fact in A° Dñi m^{lmo}ccccxxx^{mo}.

The receipts include vs. *ijd.* de potaçoẽ fca p Johem Neve et Thoma Fawce. It. *vjs.* de potaçoẽ fca p Johem Kensy señ & Willmu. Reynold. It. *xs. ix.* de potaçoẽ de Thome Petyt, Thome Terno^r, et Willi Burges. It. *ijs. iiij.* in plena soluč p ingress' Robti Mays et vx'is sue. It. *xvj.* in plena soluč p ingress' dni Rici Pynnys Capelli (and other like sums, in full and part payments for ingress or entry of new members.) It. *xxs.* for *ij* nete sold late in y^e ferme of John Male. It. *iiij.* for y^e lyght at y^e buriall of S^r Robt. Clere. (Two sums of *ijs.* each "for the ferme of a cowe.") It. *vjd.* "for the lyght of ded."

The payments were "*ijs. iiij.* for the certen" (or certifying) which occurs annually. It. *xx.* p *iiij^{or}* libris cere. It. *vjd.* p vna libra cere. It. *vjd.* p factura dce cere. It. *ijd.* p seruaçoẽ luis. It. *ijs. jd.* p *vij^{tes}* libris cere. It. *xvj.* solut in obit p aia dni Rici Pynnys. Also *xvj.* and *xxjd.* expended in obits of other brethren. Also *ijs.* for *iiijl.* of wax, and *ijd.* for makyng of the same. It. solut *xxvj.* for *ij* nete newe bought. It. *ixs. vjd.* for another cowe newe bowght. It. *iiij.* for wrightyng of this account.

Then follows the balancing of the account, and the election of fifteen persons to the office of husbands or trustees, and of four as "dispensatores hui^s luis," and Johes Joby again as "Preco" (or beadle.)

The compotus or account of 12th Nov., 1531, contains the same kind of entries: the receipts including *xiijs. ijd.* de potaçoẽ fca p Thoma Wasshyngton, Johēm Pyncheon, & Thoma Lombe. It. *xs. iiij.* ob. de potaçoẽ fca p Robtū Dyn et Ricūm Brome. It. *vij.* de Rico Howse in plena soluč p ingress^u vx'is sue. It. *xs.* de Robto Carre p vna vacca 3 vendit. It. *ijs.* de eodē Robto p fir^o eiusdē vacce. It. *ijs.* p fir^o vni^s vacce, *xx.* p fir^o vni^s vacce, and three other sums of *ijs.* for the like. It. *xvj.* p lūie hui^s Frafa.

The payments were for four cows bought at *xs.* each.

It. *vs.* Francesco Gedney *p* *xijli.* wax. It. *xvj.* *p* *factu* dic^t cere. It. *ijs.* *jd.* *p* *emenda*coe le Bason in our lady chapell. It. *p* *aia* Wal^ti Ponyard *xxd.*, *p* *aia* Sibille Sendell *xvijjd.*, *p* *aia* Johis Kensy seⁿ *xxd.* Johis Joby *p*conⁱ *ijjd.* It. Wal^to Bird in *m*cede *p* *custodient* l'mine *ij.* It. *p* *emenda*coe Fenestre in ecclia *xd.*

Concluding with the usual elections or appointments to office.

Compotus Thome Sendell, Robti Elyott, Henrici Dyman, et Thome Petyte, Dispensator^l *p* *luie* *be* Marie in capella Ecclie pochial' de Wymondh^m computant' a duodecimo die mensis Nouemb^r A^o Dni *m*^{limo}*cccc*^{mo}*xxxj*^{mo} usq, ad *xvij*^{mo} diem mens Augusti A^o Dni *m*^{limo}*cccc*^{mo}*xxxij*^o.

The receipts for drinkings were *xxjs.* *vd.*, viz., *xs.* *vijd.* de pota^{co}e fca *p* Jhem Dyn, Willm^u Foster, Robti Carre, & Will^m Fysher, and *xs.* *xd.* de pota^c f'ca *p* Ric^u Mayd & ux'e eiu^a Margarete Sendell et Margareta howse.

They also accounted for seven sums of *ijs.* each for the farm or letting of as many cows ad F'm o^m sco^z vl^t p^tit ante dat. huius compot. To one is added *m*o vendit est, to another *m*o mortua est, and *xs.* is entered as a receipt for a cow sold. It. *ijs.* *p* *vsu* luminis ardentⁱ ad obitⁱ Johis Kensy & Willi Warlyngton. It. *iiij.* de Willmo Cooke in plena solu^c debi^t uxⁱis sue. The payments were chiefly for wax. *ijs.* for wax making. It. *ij.* "to the Bellman kepyng the lyght." It. *xxj.* each *p* *aia* four persons. The statement concludes as usual with the names of the electors and of those chosen for officials for the ensuing year.

The next account is entitled the compotus of Adam Bischopp elici, Johis Symonds capell', et Johis Dyⁿ dispensator^l hui^a l^uis from 7th Aug., 1533, to 6th Sept., 1574, in which there is no variation from those preceding, the income being partly derived from the farm of cows,

admission fees, and gifts, including *ijs. de Johis Symonds, capellano, ex donaçõe, p asimento xxxd. and xxijd. ob. from the same, in pte soluç xxxjs. xd. ob. ut sup^a rec'. It. rec' vjd. p aia in obit Johis Kensy p luie. It. xxijd. p aiab; diu^{soz} ardent' ad obit' eo^z. The payments were for wax and making it up three of xxjd. each p aia. It. ob. for powder. It. iiijd. for wrightyn of this accompt.*

The names of the electors include those of Dñs Ricus Rowse, Dñs Johes Pynchon, &c., and Dñs Johes Symonds was again one of the chosen for dispensators for the ensuing year.

The account of the latter "computant" a festo assumpt. be M^e A^o Dni millimo quingentesio tredecimo iiij^{to} vsq ad p^odom Fm̃ assumpt be M^e A^o Dni millimo quingentesio tricesimo quinto," contains a receipt of vs. vjd. for a drinking, "potaçõe," made by two brethren; small sums for the farm of cows. It. xiiijd. for the skyn of a cowe ded. It. ijs. viijd. for the light "brennyng" at obits; the whole amounting to iiij^{li}. vs. jd. Out of which they paid, besides, for wax, &c., viijd. for emendyng of the bason of the light, and ijd. for a staff to oon of the ⁵. . . . of the light. It. xxxvjs. viijd. to S^r Richard Rowse syngyng for the brethren of the light. It. xiijs. iiijd. to the belle. It. xs. for a cowe and xxd. p aia Johis Fishpond. Afterwards iiijd. for wrightyng of this accomte, and iiijd. in expens^e at makyng this accompte.

The minutes of this year contain no appointment of stewards, but the last ones appear to have remained in office; and the next year's account is made from the Feast of the Assumption be M^e anno RRs Henrici octavi vicesimo septimo septima usq, ad Fm̃ assūpt be m^e (in the following year.)

The receipts of this year include a legacy of iiijd. and two each of j^{li}. cere, with iiijd. p luie ad obit^e Willi

⁵ This word is illegible.

Wurlyngton; It. *vd.* ad obit Stephi Brom; *iijd.* ad obit Johis Kensy; and *ijd.* ad obit Thome Kett sen. The payments shew the purchase of a rather larger quantity of wax than usual. It. *xxijd.* in expens̄ ad obiť Johis Colyour. It. *iiijd.* p̄ obsuaçõe luīs.

The names of the electors to offices were fifteen in number, those chosen for stewards the same as before.

This is the last in date of the accounts of this gild or society, the purpose of which seems to have been the providing wax for a light to be kept burning in our Lady's Chapel, and lights to be used at the obits of the members.

WYMONDHAM ST. GEORGE'S GILD.

Computus Mⁱ Johis Drye, Alderman Gilde Sci Georgii, fact' in a^o Dni. m^{llo}cccc^{mo}xxxij^{to} et regni Regis Henrici octavi vicesimo octavo.

Imp^{la} rec' viijs. viijd. de Kat'ina sleete p̄ fir^a Inclus' & coquine p. a^o vno tiāto ad f'm sci m^u px. futur' post ti^m sing. annz.

It. rec. iijs. de Thoma Braskygge p̄ fir^m tenťi ad f'm p̄cēm.

It. rec. xijd. de Robto Kett & Johe Neve p̄ fir^m columbar'.

Sm^a xvs. viijd.

Inde resolūt.

Imp^{la} sol' iijs. p̄ certitudine hui's gilde.

It. sol. jd. in oblaçõe in ij^a die.

It. sol. iijd. in elemosina dat. ad lazarus.

It. sol. ijs. iiijd. p̄ ^{men}dacone luīe.

It. sol. vjd. sacriste monasterij de Wymondhām in reddit'.

It. sol. xijd. ad stipendiū mimi.

It. sol. viijd. p̄ scripçõe hui^a compot^a.

It. sol. iiij*d.* to John Skerndell for skochens for brethers
& susters.

(Another Account.)

Eleccio in A° Dni. vij^{li}m°cccc^mxxxvj^{to}—

Johes Dyn	Robt° Wiseman	Willm' Foster	Robt° Carre
Robt° Dyn	Galfridus Rowe	Thom° Yongman	Thom° Kett
Willm° Geffrey	Robt° Dowsyng	Thom° Hurry	
Johes Neve	Thom° Petyt	Alexand'	

p ale Johes Neve.

p puisorib; convivij Ricus Reynold
Willms. Fisher

p collectorib; Johes Marow
Thom° Hurry

p p'cone Thoms. Bell. p vesillatore Thomas Sharpe.

p Inventore luminis Thom° Chetryng et habebit in mcede
ijs. ij*d.*

Collectores computāt de iijs. vij*d.* qui remanet in man° in
a° p't'ito.

It. computant de iijs. j*d.* collect. hoc anno. Sm° vijs. viij*d.*
unde solut'.

Inp^{is} xvij*d.* p aīa Thome Geffrey.

It. xvij*d.* in die sci. Georgij.

It. x*d.* p aīa Willi. lombe in ij° die.

Sm° ijs. x*d.*

ONE YEAR'S ACCOUNT OF OUR LADY'S GILD.

A° regni Reg° H. octavi quarto decimo.

The bylle of y° rekenyng of y° Gyld of ow° Ladye:—

Off y° receipts:

In p'mis rec' of y° mony that be lefte at y°

laste accomte xiijs. v*d.*

rec' of Roger Pollard in lent for one yer ^s rent of y ^e tenantree	vjs.
rec' of Willm. Kett for ij smale oks . . .	ijs. ijd.
rec' of Vmfreye Spilman for a parcell of woode rec' of Thom ^s Chittlyng for iij Elmys & a pcell of woode	ixs. vjs.
rec' of Willm. Richardson for y ^e herne . . .	ijs.
rec' of Rich ^d Pollard of y ^e yer ijs. iiij ^d . deb ^s	ijs. viij ^d .
rec' of Willm. Kyddell for y ^e yer fore of his her Off y ^e payments :	vij ^s .
Inpms paide vij galuns of lampe oyle y ^e p'ce xiiij ^d . y ^e galun	vij ^s . ijd.
It. p ^d to Richard Blome for y ^e bryngyng home It. p ^d to John Tynkar for scoryng of y ^e bason y ^e wiche y ^e lampe hangyth	jd. xviij ^d .
It. p ^d to Johe Gaye for ij ^{li} . of waxe & ye making It. p ^d to Thom ^s Warde for iij dayes heggeyng goyng to his owne borde	xxd. xijd.
It. p ^d to Thom ^s Mekylfelde for other iij dayes goyng to his owne borde	xijd.
It. p ^d to y ^e seid Th. Warde and Th. Mekylfelde for iiij dayes hegging w ^t y ^e bords	xvj ^d .
It. for rent to y ^e Brothers of Choselemy . . .	xiiij ^d .
It. p ^d to Worlyngtone coup for mendyng of y ^e Fyrkyn y ^e lampe oyle is put in	jd.
It. for iiij ^{li} . of waxe yn newe howse for y ^e lyght of owr ladye	ijs. iiij ^d .
It. for one of y ^e same pownde of waxe makyng on to John Gaye	jd.
It. for iiij loode of claye cartyng & y ^e caryage It. to olde Hamund for shotyng of y ^e same cleye by y ^e spase of j daye goyng to his owne borde	vij ^s . xd. iiij ^d .
It. for tredyng of y ^e same cleye by y ^e space of a nothyr daye w ^t his borde	iiij ^d .

It. for viij sparrs to pece olde sparrs y ^t were brokyn	viijd.
It. for setting upp y ^e seid sparrs by j daye & half w ^t his borde	vjd.
It. for ryggyng iij dayes & an half w ^t his borde	xviijd. ob.
It. to his s'utor for iij dayes & an half w ^t his boorde	xiijd.
It. for hellpyng them by ij dayes w ^t his boorde	viijd.
It. p ^d to Will ^m Bale for C & di of strawe . . .	vjd.
It. p ^d to M ^r . Vyker for the certen	iijs.
It. p ^d to Will. Flowyrdewe of rent of crowmwells	iijs. vjd.
It. p ^d for the offeryng on ye mundaye	jd.
It. p ^d for y ^e hyryng of seynt Thom ^s gildehowse	xvijd.
It. p ^d to y ^e pvyors for y ^e tenants' dyners on y ^e mundaye	xijd.
P ^d to y ^e wayte & his boye	iiijd.
It. for wrytyng of y ^e accompte	viijd.
Sm ^a total xxxvijs. iiijd. ob.	

RENTAL OF THE GILD OF ST. THOMAS.

M^d. de reddit firm' terr' & firm' domoꝝ p man^a Johnis
Payn et Thome hogan collect^o elect^o p gild Sci Thome martiris
in Wymondh^m pcipiend a Festo Sci Michaelis anno rr E.
quarti iiij^o usq. ad F^m michis quinto.

Simon Collett } p firm reddit mesuag^o eoꝝ voc. le
Thomas Collett } Hert vijs. iijd.

[Rents of other messuages iijs. xd., iiijd., and xd.]

Fr^s Gild sce Trin^a p redditu mes eoꝝ xviijd. ob.

[Other rents xijd. and ijd.]

John Gurnay p firm terr' & pasture vijs. iijd.

Henric^s louyk p firm inclausi vjs. viijd.
 Idm Henr' p firm ij acr ij rod terr' ijs. xd.

[Rents of fifteen other pieces of land ex pte de Byshlond
 apud reesbryg, apud Wadebryg, in Dykbek, in Kakewyk
 feld, in Westwade medowe, and elsewhere, total xl. vjs. ij d.]

Johus langford p firm domoꝝ j inclaus', &c. xiijs. xd.

John Symmys al myller p firm dom^s subter le
 gyldehalle ix s.

Ric Fyke p firm dom^s voc' le old gyldehalle, xs. [and other
 houses.]

John Petyte p firm pastur' vocat' Brankkest'is in
 Wodefeld nup Johis Wyndhñ armiꝰi in
 excamb' p tre. nup. Rob. Wilton xvjd.

John Betts al' Burgh p firm terr' nup. Rici
 Cobald, cap^s p est' iiij acr. ijs. vjd.

Iñm p fir j acr. & j rod nup Th. Cobald capelli
 iac' in campo ppe hochñ viijd.

p fñ vni^s acr. terr' & di ult' grovett nup Johis Baly sen'
 iac' in cultur' vocat clakkyswell, hoc a^o n^l.

Johnes Dabbe p fir^s j acr' t're in Crongethorp feld ex
 dono eiusd Johis, p integr' ipius sibi dimiss' p aⁿ xijd.
 ad tminum vite sue.

MANOR OF WYMONDHAM ABBIA.

22 Henry VII. [1507.]

Copy of court-roll of the admission of Thomas Balye,
 Chaplain, Alderman of the Gild of St. Thomas the Martyr
 in Middleton in Wymondham, and several others, from the
 surrender of John Gurre, Clk., to a messuage called *Boyses*,
 with the old gylde house and a messuage called *Puleynes*,
 with the new gylde house, and some small pieces of copy-
 hold land in Wymondham, as trustees for the use and
 benefit of the *Gilde of St. Thomas the Martyr*.

MANOR OF WYMONDHAM REGIS.

Copy of court-roll of the Monday after Trinity Sunday in 35 Hen. VIII. (1543) of surrender by John Symonds, Chaplain, Galfridus Symonds, Robert Herryng, John Dynne, and William Lambe, Gent., of a messuage with an ancient house called *Boysts*, and a messuage with a new house called *Pulleyns*, and one acre of land adjoining next Norwoode Grene, *de officio Enterbate*, and half an acre *de officio Pelham & de officio Ma.*, and also a messuage called Nelonds, &c., in Mydelhā, with 13 acres and 1 rood *de officio Neve*, and other parcels, messuages, &c., to the intent that the lord was to do his will with them. And the lord being thus in possession, regranted the said premises to the said John Symonds, Chaplain, William Lambe, Gent., and John Flowerdew, Gent., to hold to them, their heirs and assigns, at the will of the lord, &c.

It is not stated that the above were to be held upon any trust, but the same premises in the preceding copy are mentioned as belonging to the Gild of St. Thomas.

MANOR OF WYMONDHAM ABBIA.

GILD OF ST. PETER.

At the court held "die lune in crastino post dñicam in Abbis," a° r. 14 Hen. VIII. [Whitsun Monday, 1510.]

Reference to the proceedings of the last court, on Thursday before the Festival of St. Agnes in the same year, when Robert Poynter, Chaplain, Alderman of the Gilde of St. Peter in Wymondham, and his brethren were summoned to shew cause by what right they held and occupied certain copyhold messuages, lands, &c., in Wymondham, belonging to the said gild, and which they had entered

upon, upon pain of forfeiture of all the said premises from themselves, their heirs, assigns, and successors for ever. At which court the said Robert produced a certain copy forged and counterfeit in the following words: "Ad curiam ibm tent. die Jovis px post festum Sci Petri q^d, &c., de advincla anno r^ris Henrici septimi xxij^{mo} q^d Thomas Wodehous miles ex^a curiam, &c., sur^s redd^t in manu dni., &c., omnia illa messuagia cotagia terra, &c., ten^t naf de hoc man^ubio in Wymondham vnde Johnes Wetherby obiit sesit^u & q^d sesit^u fuerunt in manu dni. racone non solu^ois redd^t suis, &c., inde dno. debet^r ac p^r di^vis rebellion^r & affons^r dno. Abbi & conventui facta ac Sen^o & ballivo ejus p^r Thomam Wetherby filio & hered^e p^rdcⁱ Johis fact^r & ppetrat^r. Que p^rdict Thomas Wodeho^s miles per nomi^e Thome Wodehous armig^ri simul cum Johne Oseley de hospicio dni. Regis gen^ooso ceperunt ex manu dni. ut prius ad curiam die Jovis post dnicam in abbas a^o 16 Hen. VII. [1500] ad opus Francisci Southwell armig^ri & aliorum." And thereupon a search was made into the rolls of the manor in the presence of said Robert Poynter, and the roll of the said court held in the 22nd Hen. VII. was found, but contained no entry of such surrender by Sir Thomas Wodehous. And it was sufficiently certain that the said copy was forged and counterfeit. And it was further brought to light that at a court held on Thursday after the Feast of St. James, in the 8th year of King Edward IV. [1468] one Henry Langforth, brother and heir of John Langforth, surrendered in court a certain messuage and lands, described, to the use of Simon Sawyer and others, their heirs and assigns, to the use of the Gilde of St. Peter in Wymondham, who were admitted tenants accordingly, but all of whom had been many years dead; and the alderman and brethren of the gild had usually held and occupied the premises without any title or admittance and fine to the lord, to the prejudice and injury of the lord. It was therefore considered that the alderman

and brethren ought to forfeit to the lord as well the premises formerly of said John Wetherby as the other premises mentioned ; and therefore came into court the said alderman Robert Poyntour, and inspected⁶ the negligence of his predecessors, and yielded up all the premises into the hands of the lord, with the consent of the brethren ; put himself in the favour and mercy of the court, and remised and released the same at the will of the lord. And the lord being so seised and moved by piety, intending the relief of all faithful souls of brethren and sisters of the gilde, as well in the maintenance and continuance thereof in utility, as in re-continuance of the ancient rents and services, of his special favour granted to the aforesaid Robert Poyntor, alderman of the said gild, Edward Knevett, Esq., John Drye, Clk., Vicar of the Church of Wymondham, Robert Hogon, Gent., Adam Bysshopp, Chaplain, Robert Kensey, Stephen Borell, William Kett, William Stokton, John Sygar, Cristopher Sygar, and Thomas Carrow, their heirs and assigns, all the premises, viz., one messuage and 15 acres of land and meadow in divers pieces, formerly of s^d John Wetherby, and also a messuage and 20 acres of land formerly of s^d John Langforth, and they were admitted to the same, to the use of the said Gild of St. Peter at Wymondham, and to provide and pay a priest to celebrate and pray yearly in the parish church of St. Mary of Wymondham pro bono statu of the said lord abbat and convent, and especially for the souls of all the faithful brethren and sisters of the said gild departed.

And at the same court the lord, for the relief of all faithful souls of brothers and sisters of the Gild of St. Peter, deceased, and for the augmentation and sustenance of the same gild, granted to Robert Poyntor, chaplain, the

⁶ The word looks like "inspexit," but is probably some word signifying *admitted* or *acknowledged*, or perhaps *pleaded*.

alderman, &c., and same other persons before named, a grove and piece of land which the alderman and brethren of the said gild have for many years past held and occupied, for the benefit of the gild without copy.

MANOR OF WYMONDHAM OF THE QUEEN

(So now styled.)

Ao. 3 Eliz. [1561.] Copy of court-roll, Thursday before Feast of SS. Philip and James, May 1.

Reference to proceedings at courts held die Martis in vigilia Sci Luce Evangelist, Ao. Regine 1^{mo}, Robert Poyntor unius et ultimus feoffat of all the lands and tenements in Wymondham called the Towne londs, formerly held and used for the use and benefit of St. Peter's gylde in Wymondham, surrendered and released messuages and tenements, and all his estate and interest therein, to the use and intent that the Queen, as lady of the manor, would make her will as per an enrolment fully contained thereof; whereupon the bailiff was commanded to seize all the said premises then described, all which the Queen, as well in consideration of a sum of money as a fine paid by Thomas Hast, gent., Robert Poynter, clk., John Kensey, William Knight als. Kett, John Ringwood, John Mayde, John Foster, and John Michill, in the name of all the inhabitants of this town of Wymondham, as in recontinuance of the antient rents and services, therefore due, &c., of her own free will (mero motu) and with the advice and consent of her councillors, William Marquis of Winton, Great Treasurer of England, and the most noble Richard Sackvyle, one of the right honorable Privy Council, and vnder Treasurer, and of Walter Myldmaye, Chancellor of the same court, by virtue of a

warrant inrolled of record amongst the minutes of this manor, and bearing date the 10th February in the same year, to Henry Blake, Gent., steward of divers manors and possessions of the Queen in the county of Norfolk, granted by the said Henry Blake, unto the said Thomas Hast, Robert Poynto^r, John Kensy, William Knyght, Robt. Ryngwood, John Mayde, John Foster, and John Michell, all the lands and tenements before mentioned to the use of them the said, &c., their heirs and assigns, upon condition that they from time to time should receive and take all the issues and profits thereof, and apply the same in payment to a certain *domino magistro sive homini in litteris erudito pro pueris sive pubis erudiend' atque docend' ac pro scola sive ludo litterario* within the town of Wymondham for ever, de cetero exigend custodiend' et manutend' ac ad alios pios & necessarios vsus within that town, ad tunc tempus de cetero impendend et manutenend, as by the assent and consent of the major part of the co-feoffees before named, and the majority of the most worthy of the said town, melius ad hoc expedire, according to the tenour and effect of the said letters or warrant, and further it should be lawful at such time forever to the said co-feoffees, the license of the lady and the court of this manor first obtained, of their mutual assent and consent, to alienate, sell, and surrender the said lands and tenements, and other parcels purchased in lieu thereof, so that the profits and moneys received and to be received therefore they should cause to be expended and applied for the uses and purposes aforementioned, and not otherwise.

Signed at the foot "Winchester."

THE FREE SCHOOL.

25 Eliz. [1582-3.] Copy of court-roll of Manor of Wymondham Cromwells.

Court of 22nd March, a° 25 Eliz. After a recital that from a search of the old rolls of the manor it appeared that the fraternity of the Gild of St. Thomas the Martyr, formerly held of the manor land in the North Field of Wymondham, next Garlonde Mill, also a purpresture, ppris, edificat' apud le Guildhous; it was found upon an inquiry for that purpose, that the inhabitants of this town had had and occupied the premises for a long time past without any admission, wherefore it had been ordered the same should be seised into the hands of the lord. Thereupon came into court John Kensey, Gent., and divers other inhabitants, and sought to be admitted for the use and purpose undermentioned. In compliance with which request the lord regranted the premises to said John Kensey and four others, who were admitted to hold to them, their heirs and assigns, so that the issues and profits should be applied and disposed of to the use and benefit "ludi magistri & hipodidasculi erudient' discipul' infra hanc villam." And whenever any one of the said feoffees should die, then another of the inhabitants should take the premises to the like uses.

Copy of court-roll of same Manor, 24 March, 38 Eliz.

Reference to proceedings at court of 33 Eliz., when John Kensey and others were admitted to copyhold lands and tenements called Towne Lands, formerly in the tenure of the Gild of Corpus Christi, and other messuages and lands

formerly in the tenure or occupation of the Gild of St. Thomas the Martyr, and a purpresture built with a shop at the east end of the chapel, formerly of St. Thomas the Martyr, and also other property mentioned, to them and their heirs, on condition the profits should be yearly disposed of ad manntenõem usum et pfic' ludimagist' erudient' discipul' in Wymondham et darent dñõ de fin' ad mortem cuius libet Feoffatorum. At that court three of the said trustees, feoffatores, having lately died, three others, chosen in their stead, were admitted on the like conditions.

Copy of court-roll of 10th Oct., 18 Jac., 1620, in same manor. Admission of three new trustees in the place of three named in the last admission, since deceased.

GILD LANDS.

The Bill made the ix day of June in the seventh yere of the Reigne of our sou'eygn lorde Kynge Edward the sixth Witnesseth that I Edmvdn Banyard S'unt to M^r. Thomas Knyvett Esquier have receyvyd the day of makynge heereof, to the use of my saide mayster the some of sixe pounds thirteen shillyngs & foure pens of lawfull money of Inglond payde by Fraunc^e Gedney & Thomas Dunton Church Wardens of Wymondh^m in full payment of & for the purchas of his pte & pptie videlt. the moyte of all the copiehowlde londs belongyn to the late Gylde of seynt Peater & Corpus Xpi. in Wymondh^m holden by copie of courte rooll of the manor of Cromwells, of the which said some of vj*l*. xiijs. iiij*d*. I knowleys my sylf to the use above said fully satisfied cõtent & paid the saide Inhabytaunce therof to be acquitted & discharged by these presents. In

witnesse whearof to this my bill I have subscrybed my name
geven the day & yere above written.

p me Edm' Banyard.

26 Henry VIII. (1537). Conveyance from the Trustees
of the Guyld of Holy Rode to Thomas Knyght als. Kett.

Indenture dated 20th July, a° 26 Henry VIII., between
John Segar of Wymondham thelder, William meklefeld of
the same town, baker, John Mannyng of the same, smyth,
Richard Brown, Nicholas Burges, and Robert Kedell of
the oon ptie, and Thomas Knyght otherwys called Kett
of Fornesett, bocher, of the other ptie. Reciting that the
first-named parties were seased of and in oon mease edyfyed
with certen land or pasture, &c., in Wymondham (as
trustees) to the use and behoof of the Fraternytie and
brotherhode of the Guylde of holy rode in Wymondham,
they the said parties, with the consent and assent of all the
brethren of the said guyld, bargained and sold unto the
said Thomas Knyght, otherwise Kett, certain pieces of land
therein described, and covenanted and granted to make a
good estate at the ensuing Feast of All Saints, to him
and his heirs in fee simple, or as he or they should appoint,
reserving to Segar and his co-feoffees to the use of the
brethrenn of the guyld of holy rode & ther successors four
pens yerely to be payd to y^e alderman of the s^d guyld for
the time being & his successors at the fast of seynt michell,
with power of distress for recovery of the same in case of
non-payment. And Thomas Knyght covenanted to pay
to the use of the alderman and brethren of the foreseid
guylde at the day of makyng of y^e estate, &c., foureten
pounds over and besyds fourty shillings beforehand paid
unto the vendors, the receipt of which 40s. they acknow-
ledged. There are no signatures to this deed, and the seal
has been cut off.

Bond of Henrici Gurlinge de civitate Norwici to John Symonds ju. de Wymondhām, yeoman, in £5. Dat. 15th May, a° 25 Eliz.

Condition to be void if Henry Gurlinge, his heirs, &c., shall from tyme to tyme (casualtie by fyre excepted) duringe the terme of twentie yeres next ensuinge the date herof replace amende and thache with reede well & sufficientlie the southe side of the Gildehowse called the gilde halle in Wymondhām from the Rigeinge downewarde so that the saide Henry Gurlinge, his executo^r & assig^s, shall have sufficient reed & other things necessary laide at the saide howse and also xiiij^{ten} daies warninge at any time duringe the saide terme when nede shall require for the thackinge and redinge of the same. Signed by a cross mark and sealed (1580)
(R. & C.)

Redd sealed & deli^{vd} in the p^sence of

Loye Kett, Thomas Fleminge, Wellmi Daynes, & mei Robarti Colman, who appears to have been the writer and used his seal.

The some of the Free Londe belongyng to the gylde of Corpus xpi. wythin the Towne of Wymondhām.

First won messuage callyd poleynes liing in the strete of middylton and xj acres and iij rod of londe medow pasture in the newe feld in div'se peces.

Itm won halfe acre of londe liing in the feld called Northefeld in Wymondhām.

Itm. in medowe won acer & a halfe.

CHURCH GOODS.

The weyght of laten ornaments belongyng to the inh'tants
of Wymondh'm cometh to ij C iiij^{xx} & xliij*li*.

Remaynyng w^t Willm. Kett v^{to} die Marcij anno 2^o RR.
Edwardi vj^u.

latten	}	1 scole weying vj ^{xx} xij <i>li</i> .
ornaments		2 scole weying vj ^{xx} xij <i>li</i> .
		3 scole weying iij ^{xx} xv <i>li</i> .

Sm^a xvj^{xx} xix*li*. [sixteen score 19 lbs.]

laten holywater stopp & j crosse w^t a foote, weying xlj*li*.
remaynyng in the kepyng of Willm. Kett.

Wax—oon trendell weying v^{xx} xiiij*li*.

another trendell weying v^{xx} xij*li*.

Sm^a xj^{xx} vj*li*.

THE WATCH AND PLAY SOCIETY.

This is the Acompte of William Lombe, gent., Thom^s
Byndam, Robt. Kensy, Skarndell, husbands for the
wache and play of Wymondh'm acomptyng from the
of June in the xxix yere of the Regne of our sufferen lord
Kyng Henry the [eighth] the xvij day of June in the xxx
yere of the Regne of our said sufferen lord Kyng.

First the acompte of vjs. xd. rec. of the arreraġ of the
last acompte Robt. Kett and his Fellow^s as it appereth in the
Fote of the same acompte.

Also the acompte of xxijs. ob. rec' in money gathered
before the play.

Also of viijs. iiij*d*. rec. of William Reynold for whete
and midden gadered.

Also of ix*s*. rec' for iiij combe of malt gadered.

Also of viijs. rec' for cheses gadered.

Also of ix*s*. rec' in money after the play.

Sm^a total oim. rec' iij*li*. iij*s*. ij*d*. ob.

Wherof paid—

Imp^r. paid ijs. vjd. for vjd. of serpentyn powder.

It. paid xxjd. for iij^{li}. of pyle powder.

It. paid vjd. for di m^l of sadellers nayle.

It. paid xvjd. for di reme of whight paper.

It. paid ijd. ob. for j^{li}. of glewe.

It. paid iij^d. for foyle.

It. paid ijd. for bowstrings.

It. paid vd. for pakthred.

It. paid vjd. in expens' for man & horse byeng the seid ware.

It. paid iij^d. for bred & ale at the recordyng the play.

It. paid jd. to John mannyng for a pece of asche for splētur.

It. paid ijd. to a man ryvyng the same spletur for the gyant.

It. paid xixd. to M^r. Cusyng for canvas to the same gyant.

It. paid ijd. to John Usher cuttyng the clothyng of the same gyant.

It. paid ijs. iij^d. to Thoms. Wennok werkyng the same gyant.

It. paid iij^d. for pakthred & bowstryng to the same.

It. paid iiij^s. for blew and red bokehm for ij vice cots.

It. paid iiij^s. to the trumpeters servyng the weche & play.

It. paid iiij^s. viij^d. to the mynstrales the revels & dancs.

It. paid xd. for canvas for a cote armor to John Amyas.

It. paid iijs. to William Kett for wood and astell.

It. paid xvjd. to Willm Kett for xvj^{li}. of talow to the cresset light.

It. paid viij^d. to the same Will. for piche and rosen to the same light.

It. paid vjd. to William Kedell makyng the same light.

It. paid iij^d. for di a bundell of grey paper.

It. paid viij^d. for a peyer of shoes gewyn to Willm garrard.

It. paid *iiijd.* to Thoñs Chylderhowse for a payer of devyls shoes.

It. paid *jd.* for wyer.

It. paid *viiijd.* to William Garrard gravyng flaggs & werkyng in the

It. paid *iiijd.* to Robt. ludborough werkyng in the same place by

It. paid *xd.* to John Newman makyng the harthys in the same place.

It. paid *ijs. viijd.* for cariage of tymber cleye flaggs & for old pec's of tymber.

It. paid *xvj.* to Willm Kett for old tymber to lay ouer the vulte.

It. paid *ixd.* to Thoñs Bell werkyng in the same place by *ij* days.

It. paid *vjd.* to mother Kett bakyng *ij* buschells of whete & bruyng a combe of malt.

It. paid *xijs.* to Thoñs Parker servyng the pperities of the play.

It. paid *xvj.* to William Cowper for flesche to the pleyers.

It. paid *xviiij.* to the same William for flesche.

It. paid *iiijd.* to Richard howse for a horse by *iiij* days.

It. paid *jd.* to a man tradyng cley for molds.

It. paid *ijd.* to a man gadderyng moss to aray a woodhouse.

It. paid *vd.* for lathe and nayle to a wyndow in the town howse.

It. paid *iijs. iiijd.* to John Skarndell in pte. payment of *vijs. vjd.* ob.

Sm^a total oñe soluc' lixs. *ij.* ob.

And so restethe in the hands of Thoñs Wyndam and William Rowse *iiij.* *jd.*

Md. remaynyng in the hands of Robt. seman & his Felows as apperethe in the ende of ther acompte *iiij.*

BENEVOLENCE OF 14 HEN. VIII., 1521.

We Henry by the grace of God Kinge of England and of Fraunce Defensor of the faithe and lord of Ireland, promise by these presents truly to contente and repaie to all and singular suche psones of the hundrede of Fourehowe wⁱⁿ o^r Countie of Norff., whose names bee conteigned in a scedule indented hereunto annexed, all and singuler suche pticuler somes of moneye, as have been by theym and eu'y of theym lovingly advanced vnto vs by the waye of loone a mountynge in the hole to the some of one hundred threscor thirteyn pounds eight shillings sterlinge. In vartues wherof to these presents we have caused o^r prevay seele to be sette the secunde daye of the moneth of Decembr. the xiiijth yere of o^r Reigne.

To this is affixed a strip of parchment inscribed—

By this sedule Indented appereth as well all the names as the sumes of mony of the Inhabitaunces within the hundred of Fourehowe in the county of Norff. that hath lovyngly advaunced vnto the Kyngs gov^t. by wey of lone the same sumes. First—

Thomas Wodehous knyght xv*li*.

Thirty-one other names, including Willm. Penynghton, gent. x*li*.; the highest amounts being Dñ^a louell xx*li*., John Cusshyn xx*li*., Edward Knevet squier xx*li*.

Sm^a to^u of this cedule indented one hundred threscor thirteyn poundes viij*s*. st. Henry Wiat.

The label to which the seal is attached passes through both. The seal itself, of red wax, is broken, but the centre, with the royal arms, is entire.

PAPERS RELATING TO BECKET'S CHAPEL
AT WYMONDHAM.

Repacons don vpon the chapell in the xxxiiij yere of the
Reyne of our soueran Lord King Henry the eight.

Die martis & sce Anne.

First. ij*d.* paid for nayle to the stagyng in takyng doun
(one weeke) seven different sums varying from j*d.* to
viij*d.* ob. to as many men, the two last "berying Fre
ston." Sm^a ijs. iiij*d.* ob.

Die mercurij.

Ten payments in like sums as above to as many men,
two "berying Freeston," two others "w^t bords &
bedds." Sm^a iijs. ij*d.* ob.

Die Jovis.

Six payments to as many men, two castyng sonde, and
the like to seven others, two w^t bords & bedd, another
for vj*li.* of sowde, and including ij*xx* & x*li.* of lede,
xxiiij*d.* Sm^a viijs. ij*d.* ob.

Die venis.

Nine payments, including j*d.* for j*li.* of rosen for syment,¹
ij*d.* for emendyng of a lok and a mason's axe, vij*d.* for
caryng ij loads of sonde ij loads of calyon² & ij loads
of stagyng tymber, and ij*d.* by dj day caryng ston.
In all, iijs. j*d.* ob.

Sabb's. Eight payments, including xiiij*d.* caryng xiiij
loads of sonde and calion, and four others comprising
iiij*d.* for a panne to make in syment, j*d.* for nayle to
the stagyng. It. iijs. viij*d.* for ij chalders of lyme.
It. j*d.* for three peny nayle. Sm^a ix*s.* vd. ob.

Die lune 8^o die Augusti.

It. paid vd. to Edmūds laborere beryng ston owt the
strete into the chapell.

¹ Cement.

² Calyon, calion, round stone.

Die martis. Two labourers at *iiijd.*, *ij.*, and *ij.* the half-day each.

Die mercurij. More payments to labourers at *ij.*, *iiij.*, and *vj.*, and *xij.* for carriage of a chalder of lyme.

Die Jovis. Like payments, also makyng a syntor,³ and takyng down a gret old Beame, and for a plank to ley ouer the vice.

And so it goes on with particulars of every payment for twenty-six days, none of which are of sufficient interest to extract. I have, however, noted the following.

It. paid *xvj.* for caryeng *ij* loads of Bryk tile frō Hetersett.

It. *ij.* for carying *ij* loads of calyon from the late abbey to the chapell. It. *iiij.* for a rope called a hauser. It. *vj.* for carying *ij* loads of ston frō the late abbey to the chapell. It. ob. for a four peny nayle to amend a bosse.

Die mercurij *j^o* dies Octobr^a. In addition to wages to a plomer and his ſvant, paid *vj.* for ther bords, beds, and pasture for oon horse.

Die venis 14^o die Octobrⁱ. To Thoms Belle & his ſunt, w^t ther bord, steppynge, & waterbord agen the stepyll.

Die venis 21^o die Octobr^a. *iiij.* carying *ij* loads of tile from the town house to y^e chapell.

It. paid *xij.* to Thom^s Belle & his *ij* ſunts makyng and remouying the stagys for the glaser to sett upp his glas, and payments to the said glasher.

It. *xij.* for CC of whete strawe. It. *iijs.* *iiij.* to John person & *ij* men carying the seid strawe stakkyng and ryggyng the stepill.

The total amount paid was *viiij.* *ixs.* *iiij.*

Following the entries above alluded to is one entry of receipts.

M^d. rec. *xixs.* of John Amys & Robt. Agas the first day

³ A centre?

of August, in the xxxiiij yere of the Reyne of K. Henry the viijth, by me S^r John Symonds; and five other sums in August, two others in Sept., two in October, and two on xx day of November. Sm^a lviijs. ij*d*. Et sic soluções excedūt rec. v*li*. xjs. ij*d*.

(The above on paper sown bookwise, but not bound.)

Repacons don upone the chapill of Wymondhām in the xxxiiij yere of the regne of our Soulen lorde Kyng Henry the eight.

Payments:—

First, xij*d*. to Richard Englysshe and Thom^a Danny for takyng down of the stonwark of iiij wyndows in the abbey.

It. xij*d*. for beryng of the seid wyndows frō the seid late abbey onto the said chapell by j day & di w^t ther borde.

It. xij*d*. for dyggyng of Freston & calyon in the seid late abbey by iiij days w^t his bord.

It. ijs. iiij*d*. for x lodes of sonde.

It. xvj*d*. for caryng & diggyng ston leyd owt in the churchye yard. It. xx*d*. for caryng of ston from the churchye yarde to the chapell.

Soluč anno primo Edwardi Regis sexti.

First, paid to Mr. Basynghām, goldsmyth, his peyns to wey the churchye plate thare, ijs.

It. to Richard Pentney for diggyng the sawpytt in the churchye yard for the sawar, ij*d*.

It. to John Sawar splightyng tymber at the said sawe pytt w^t his ſunt by oon day w^t thar bord for the roff of the town chapell, xiiij*d*.

(There are other payments for working at the same roof, some at iiij*d*. the day, and others at ij*d*. ob.)

It. to Richard Englisch workyng upon the stepill late called Beckett's chapell stepill by vj dayes w^t his bord at iijs. iiij*d*.

(Many other payments for labour not particularly specified.)

It. for grease to the whole sett to wynd upp ston, calyon, and morter, ob.

It. for mendyng of oon of the s. bosses for morter, jd.

It. to for caryng of ij loads of Freston owt the churche yard.

It. for an ook to make the princepall beame for the roff of the stepill, w^t the cariage of the same, xvij*d*.

It. to Thoms Kett for m^l of breke tyle, vjs.

It. for m^l of thakk tyle, vjs.

It. to Thoms Kett for C of brike tyle (apparently nil.)

It. to a woman beryng the seid tile frō Thoms. Kett to the chapell, vjd.

(The wages of men were 5*d*. a day without board, those of women were 4*d*. a day.)

Payments for the carriage of thak tyle from Melton and from Bokenham.

Many others for lyme.

Receipts for "chyppys sold in the church," viij*d*.

— for old bords & tymber sold owt of the chapell, x*d*.

— for x*li*. of old yron taken owt of the wallys in the churche over and above xxvj*li*. of the same old yren gevyn to the same Thoms. in exchange for ij barrs of new yron weying xxij*li*., the seid new barrs be leyd on ij wyndowes of the stepill now new buelded at Bekkett's chapell, vjd.

I also made extracts from an old Churchwardens' Book, which I reserved for a future occasion.

The Calthorps of Cockthorp.

COMMUNICATED BY

THE REV. H. J. LEE-WARNER, M.A.,

HON. CANON OF NORWICH.

IN a recent memoir we traced the descent of the Calthorps of Burnham from *Domesday* to the extinction of their line, through failure of male issue, A.D. 1551, and we now revert to a collateral branch, also extinct, which issued from the main stem A.D. 1436, in the first Calthorp of Cockthorp. It will be remembered that Isabel Bacon, wife of Sir Oliver Calthorp, A.D. 1376, had brought into the family her manors of Cockthorp and Blakeney; but she again severed them from the inheritance, in favour of her younger grandchild Richard. In thus turning back to a former page of our history, the sequence of our narrative will remind us of an *Æneid*, succeeded by an *Eclogue* or a *Georgic*. The memories of Agincourt, and the death struggle of the Roses, will give place to the pastoral obscurity of the lives of country gentlemen, alternating as James and Christopher for eight or ten generations, on the banks of a nameless brook, in a remote corner of the island.

The *Vitis Calthorpiana* says: "This Isabel died 12 Henry IV., and by her will gave Sniterley (Blakeney) to her
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grandchild Richard of Cockthorp. The will with Mr. Bacon of Norwich." A copy of this will, which is written in Norman French, is now with Lord Calthorpe; but while it gives to "Richard Fitz a Sir William Calthorp a aver et tener a luy et a sez heirs de son corps issuant" large estates in Essex and elsewhere, it is altogether silent on the subject of the Sniterley gift, which may have formed a nuncupative codicil. However that might have been, the intention of the testatrix was fully recognized twenty-six years afterwards by the male heir of Burnham and his trustees, who, in the following terms conveyed the manors: "Sciant presentes et futuri quod nos Simon Felbrigg, mil., Brianus Stapleton, mil., Will^e Paston, Nich^e Atchurch, ex assensu et spontanea voluntate Will^{mi} Calthorp, arm., consanguinei et heredis Will^{mi} Calthorp, mil., defuncti, viz., filii et hered. Johis Calthorp, mil., defuncti, filii et heredis prædicti Will^{mi} Calthorp, mil., et juxta effectum ultimæ voluntatis Isabellæ quæ fuit uxor Oliveri Calthorp, mil., sororis et heredis Barth. Bacon, mil., dimisimus libere, &c. Ricardo Calthorp, arm^o, filio prædicti Willⁱ Calthorp, mil., et Margaretæ uxoris prædicti manerⁱ nos^r de Sniterley, &c. Tho. Astley testis. Dated 14 Hen. VI. (1436.) The deed with Hen. Calthorp, Esq., at Ampton." And the above further enables us to correct an error of Blomefield, who makes Richard to be the son, and not (as he really was) the grandson of Isabel (late Bacon).¹

¹ The descent in the fifteenth century would seem hopelessly confused if we had not the clear evidence of the Mekylfeld will to guide us. The *Norf. Vis.* for Cockthorp (*Harl. MS.*, 1154), *e.g.*, commences thus:—

"John Cal. of Cockthorp, 2^d son of John Cal. aforesayde and 2 brother to Sir Will.

"John Cal. of Cockthorp, Esq., mar. y^e d. of Erming . . . and had issue Christopher and Oliver.

"Christopher Cal. of Cockthorp, Esq., mar. y^e d. of . . . & had issue John, sonn & h.

"John Cal. of Cock., Esq., mar. Alice d. of John Astley, &c."

With this compare the opening of the will of Marg^t. Mekylfeld, proved at Norwich, December 12, 1480, on opposite page.

For more than one reason the estate, which thus passed, merits a particular description. It occupies an elevated plateau on the belt of high ground which extends from Hunstanton to Cromer, on the verge of the German Ocean; but never runs inland beyond a few miles. The watershed thereby formed has a drainage of brooks or rivulets, which, like the Stiffkey river, have cut their way northwards, through the chalks and gravels, occasionally in dells or gorges of picturesque character, before they lose themselves in the salt marsh or sandy beach. Cockthorp, as its name indicates, is a village perched on an eminence, although the dead level of the table land, at this particular spot, prevents an extensive outlook. The ground floor of the manor house, contiguous to a public road, could never have commanded more than two objects: the village cross, whose base is still *in situ*, and the little parish church, a plain and unpretending structure, standing on as bleak a spot as any within the county. But in a few hundred paces the scene gradually changes. A very slight elevation would look out on old ocean for many a league; and southward the eye ranges over the Walsingham Deanery, with many of its dependent churches, around the celebrated shrine of the Parathalassian Virgin. The grand Norman pile of the abbey church of Binham lies in the adjoining parish, and forms a middle distance.

From the village a steep descent of several hundred yards leads down the chalk escarpment to the bottom of the gorge, where the church of St. Mary, Stiffkey,—formerly accompanied by a twin sister,—nestles on the river's bank, on which the gray towers of the Lord Keeper, Sir Nicholas Bacon,

“Imprimus lego animam, &c., corpus que meum sepeliendum infra Ecclesiam omn' scor' de Cokethorp juxta Rem. Calthorp quondam maritum meum.”

She further names her sons John, Oliver, and William.

The will of her first husband, Richard Calthorp, was proved Feb. 25, 1438, and he appoints “Margaretam uxorem meam et Johannem Irmyngland, Rectorem ecclesie parochialis sci. Johannis de Styffkey” his executors.

preserve his memory and his name.—*Norf. Archæol.*, vol. viii, p. 143. Higher up, the rounded hill of Warborough retains in its name and aspect a recollection of the troublous times when the beacon fire on its summit flashed signals of invasion to the so-called “Danish” camp at Warham, an earthwork which dates probably from earlier British days. Such were the surroundings of Richard entering on his new abode. He counted his sheep by thousands, whether they roamed on the commons and inhaled the “croceos odores” of the golden furze, which is still the weed of the district, or whether, under careful shepherds, they were tended on the salt marsh,² as they followed the receding tides. The wool of the black-faced Norfolk (a breed now extinct) was fairly long in the staple, although dark and scanty; but such of it as was not left on the bushes where they rambled was convertible into clothing and blankets, which, in most of the wills of the period, occur as a usual legacy to favoured sons or cousins. The surplus—readily disposed of at the staple of Norwich, or spun in the looms of Worstead, or perhaps shipped at Blakeney in a contraband runner to Belgium—was a valuable source of income; and accordingly the wills are evidence that it was frequently so considered. Thus, John Calthorp (1503): “To Alys my wiffe all my shepe pastured in Cokethorp, and all my weders pastured in the field of Morston.” Thus again, Christopher (1547): “To my sone James all my purchased lands, and residue of plate and moveables in full satisfaction for 1000 shepe, which that I the said Christofer Calthorp standeth bound to deliver to said James by a pryer Ind^m of Cov^t of marriage made between Robert Garneys and John Garneys, Esq., and me the said Christofer.”

² An inq. p. m. taken on the death of Christopher Calthorp, 1 Car. I., specifies, *inter alia*, “Quadraginta acras marisci salsi in Blakeney, et ducentas acras marisci salsi et chingle in Cley.”

It may probably admit of question whether Richard Calthorp, on succeeding to his Cockthorp inheritance, found there a mansion suited to his advanced position. He bequeaths his messagium in Cokethorp to his wife Margaret, in contradistinction to a certain "tenementum vocatum Bures in Wretill," a manor, which he had in Essex, by his grandmother's will. We presume, therefore, that he lived there; although the extensive foundations, and the mere fragment of a doorway, preserved in a farm stable, would indicate a later date. But here at least he died, leaving sons and daughters, and providing for his sepulture, "coram curiam sanctam in Ecclesiā Omnium S^corum in Cokthorp." He died comparatively early; and his widow, who remarried, was left by him in full possession, and (if we may judge by her will) had occasion to play the part of a peacemaker among her children, who seem to have lived around her, but whose relations among themselves were not the most amicable.³ To Alice, her son's wife, she bequeaths "duo salsaria argenti una cum cooptorⁱ ac etiam unam crateram argenti quæ nuper fuerunt Johis Hastley p^{at}ris dictæ Aliciæ ad termin^um vitæ suæ, et quod post mortem suam illa salsaria et cratera remaneant Christofero filio dictorum Johis et Aliciæ." She bequeaths to Margaret, the daughter of Robert Braunch, "zonam

³ "Item volo qd. cum Oliverus Calthorp filius meus per diversa scripta sua obligatoria michi ac Will^m Calthorp filio meo ad usum meum obligat^r in div^{er}sorum denar^{um} summā michi ad div^{er}sa, festa in iisdem scriptis conten . . . qd. si idem Oliverus aut Agnes uxor ejus implicant molestent, seu perturbent Johannem Calthorp heredes seu assignat^r suos de (ser.) pro uno messagio et certis terris et ten^{er}tis in Cokethorp quæ iidem Oliverus et Agnes nuper de licentiā meā occupaverint q^d tunc dicta scripta obligatoria cedant, ad usum meum et pecuniæ inde provenientes disponentur ad executionem præsentis test. mei et si non relaxent totum eorum . . . in prædict^r terr^{ar} ita quod ipsum Johann^{em} non inquietent ut pridem, et tunc volo q^d dicta scripta obligatoria eidem Olivero deliberent, et volo et requiro quoad prædictum Willm. filium meum q^d ipse non relaxet eidem Olivero nec aliquod faciat in barra obligator^r prædict^r, &c."

blodii coloris harnessatam cum argento deaurato." This Robert was apparently a son of Edmond Braunch, whose arms were impaled with Calthorp in the chancel of Stody Church.—Blom. *Norff.*, v. 960. She finally provides for her interment by the side of her first husband, and constitutes her son John her sole executor.

The will of this John is dated June 6th, 1503, and is one of the first in English of the series of Calthorp wills in the Norwich Registers. His monumental brass is coarsely executed, and is now read with difficulty; but it informs us, by comparison with his will, that the "Whyte Fryres of Snetyrles" (the Carmelites of Blakeney) claimed his body as that of a deceased benefactor. It reads:—

**Hic jacent corpora Johannis Calthorp Armigi unibz
fondatorum cobent & Alicie uxoris ei' qbi obiit
xii^o die Augustri a dni mbiit—āiaū ppiciet.**

A mutilated escutcheon preserves only a trace of the engrailed border of the Astley coat, and a circular cavity in the centre of its impalement is the only remaining evidence of the cinquefoil ermine, originally in enamel, which it once contained.

From him⁴ the stock proceeds, giving out a fruitful offshoot in the person of Richard of Antingham, who, had he lived to see it, would have been proud of the civic honours conferred on his boy Martin, Lord Mayor of London, in the thirtieth year of Elizabeth. This Antingham memorial is most conveniently studied among the *Brasses* of Cotman. Worn and mutilated as the monument now is, and even in

⁴ Extract from his will, dated March 12, 1547:—

"If it chaunceth that I dye at Cokethorp, to be buried in the chauncsell there before the ymage of all Saints, and if it chaunceth that I dye and departe at Blakeney, my body for to be buried in the P'ish Church at Blakeney aforesayde next to my ffather's grave."

part transposed, it is so complete a record as to deserve more careful notice than any that has yet been given it. Eleven sons and five daughters, represented in effigy, with their names inscribed in order, enable us to give to each his proper place in the pedigree; and beside them a smaller group of two grandsons, and a granddaughter, remains to be accounted for. These are apparently the children of Antony, the mercer, of London, who, dying at his country house, Mason's Hill, Bromley, was there buried; but left a legacy to the poor of Antingham. A little plate with his name existed in Cotman's time, but has since been abstracted by the chisel of some collector. Blomefield's hasty conclusion, more than once repeated, arose from his counting the heads, but ignoring the names of the children. The inscription runs thus; and we give it at full length in order to correct Blomefield's errors and interpolations:—

"HERE UNDER LYETH BURIED RYCHARD CALTHORP ESQUYER
 YE SONE OF JHON CALTHORP OF COKTHORP ESQUYER
 AND ANNE HIS WIFE
 LATE YE WIFE OF ROBERT RAYNNES ESQ'ER
 THE DAUGHTER OF EDMOND HASTYNGS ESQUER
 WYCHE SAYDE RICHARD DEPARTYD THYS LYFE
 THE XX DAYE OF JANUARY AN^o D'NI 1554
 AND IN THE FFYRST AND SECONDE YERES OF KYNG PHYLIPPE AND QUENE MARY
 AND THE SAYDE ANNE
 DECREASED THE XXX DAYE OF MARCHE AN^o D'NI 1562.
 GOD BE PRAYSED."

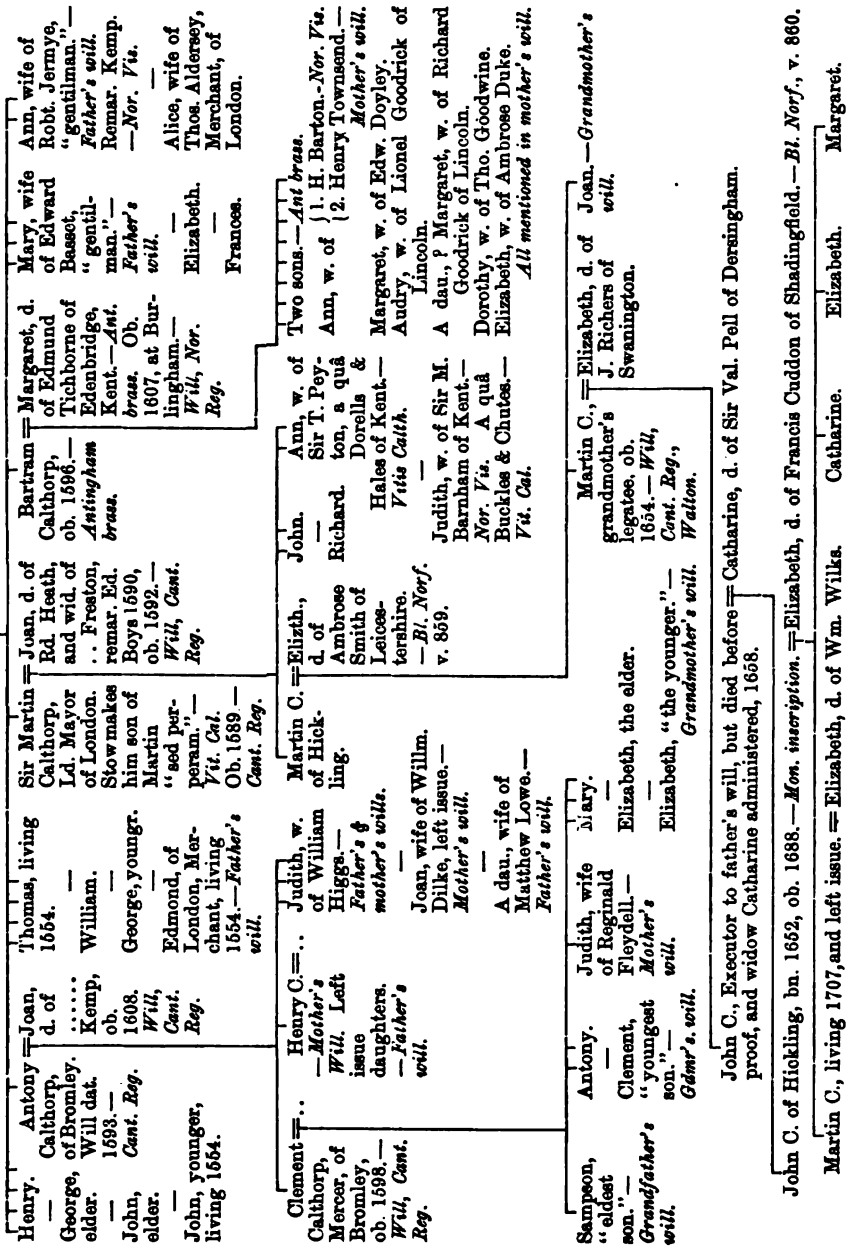
The armorial bearings on the ledger are not without significance. The Calthorp coat is charged with an annulet on the ermine fess for difference, denoting the fifth house. A second escutcheon has Calthorp, impaling Hastings, quartering Ffoliot. A third bears the arms of the "Merchant Adventurers," barry-nebuly arg. and az., on a chief quarterly gules; 1 and 4, a lion passant gardant; 2 and 3, two roses. These Merchant Adventurers or Hamburg Merchants were one of the most ancient of the City companies;

and when their first incorporation, 1296, was confirmed by Queen Elizabeth, they rose to such a position of wealth and eminence, as not only to excite the jealousy of our own woollen traders at Norwich, *e.g.*, and Ipswich, but in a measure to cripple the trade of Hamburgh and the chief continental centres. A fourth escutcheon has the Mercer's Arms—a demi virgin couped, crowned, and wreathed with roses.—Edmondson's *Heraldry*. These memorials seem to indicate that several of the brothers contributed to their parents' monument; among them Edward the merchant, and Bartram, whose brass remains incised in Roman capitals. The relation of these brasses to the Cockthorp fleeces is obvious. They serve to mark the passage from the sheepfold to the wool-sack, and point out the steps by which Calthorps yet unborn were to attain legal eminence in the service of the state or sovereign.

We may briefly refer to Stow for the mayoralty of Sir Martin,⁵ whose eventful year of office coincided with the appearance of the Spanish Armada off the coast of England. While the queen was riding on horseback through the camp at Tilbury, by her presence infusing animation into the eager hearts of her soldiers, her chief magistrate was engaged in the metropolis extracting loans and subsidies from the pockets of reluctant citizens, to supply the sinews of war. Doubtless, unless prevented by his last fatal illness, he was present at St. Paul's, in attendance on the court, when the queen heard the sermon. Perhaps his patriotic exertions had hastened the messenger of death, and explain the suggestive tone of loyal

⁵ The original silver seal, to which Stow apparently had access for engraving in his *Survey of London*, and to which he has erroneously added a crescent for difference, is now in the possession of the Rev. Jeffery Millard, to whom I am indebted for some of the more recent documents connected with the pedigree. It makes an oval impression, and stands about an inch high, perforated for attachment with a trefoil aperture. Its setting is inscribed "C. C. 1594."

(a.)



melancholy which dictated the preamble of his will. "If I shall die in the service of her majesty, then I will that my brethren the aldermen join with my executors for my burial, as beseemeth a good citizen." The anticipation was fully realized; the seal of the corporation fell from his hand before the year was ended, and was received by Sir Roger Martin—and he died within two months. His arms in Stow's engraving are represented quarterly of six: 1 and 6, Calthorp; 2, Bacon; 3, three lions passant; 4, St. Omer; 5, (P) Stapleton. It is not without surprise that we recognize in the third quartering the royal arms of England. It is not very apparent by what right assumed, but one of the last Calthorps of the line, on migrating to East Barsham, inserted the lions passant regardant as the forty-eighth of a series of impalements in an oriel window of his Wolterton manor-house, as derived through Devereux, from a daughter of Henry III., and it remained there to a comparatively recent date. (See woodcut, p. 168.)

While the younger branches at Antingham were thus inscribing their annals on monumental brass or marble, and obeying the natural instinct of that craving for immortality which is inherent in the human mind, a more perishable material was selected by their cousin James of Cockthorp, with the same end in view. His last will and testament is not only suggestive of the outward life of a Norfolk squire under the Tudors, but moreover expressive of the inner life of religious England under an open Bible, and our readers will share our regret that of the "Wyndowe of the South Ile," with the testator and his wife "sett in it," not a trace remains. The same may be said also of the "scrypture of latyne" (latten) on his mother's grave; but the "chauncell gabell with its table of ffreestone," at a cost of *vili. xiiis. ivd.*, may even now be traced; as also the testator's tomb, from the provisions of the will.

A court leet extract from an original document from the

parish chest at Wighton gives us an interesting glimpse of Cookthorpe at this period.

"Hundr de North Grenhoo."

Styffekey cum Cokthorpp. Vis. franc. dno^r Regis et Regine ducat sui Lancastr. ibm tenē die Jovis prox ante festum Sci Nicholai Epi regnorum Phi. et Marie dei grā Regis et Regine Anglie Franc' Neapol. Jerusalem et Hibnie fidei defens. Regine Hispania^r et Sicilie Archiduc. Aust^r Dñe Mediolaⁿ Burgund et Brabant' comit' Hauspourg Fland^r et Tiroll s'cdo et tercio.

Certificatio in^t al. Juratores dicunt sup^r sacra^m suum q^d Jacobus Lete v^r x^d.

Mercia iij^d.

m iij^d
p^r ei pen.

Calthorpp armⁱ diminuit et accrochiavit sibi cum fossa^m suo pcell' viā vocat' le perambulation Wey apud Brokebake prope Cokthorpp Debdale necnon accrochiavit sibi cū arrat^r suo pcell unius Me^r vocat' le perambulations mere apud Coldesdale et etiam diminuit et accrochiavit sibi pcell viā perambulat' apud Blaklands per quod capitulares de Styffekey non possunt facere purell [purfle, a border or hemming] sive perambulationem suam prout debent. Ideo in mercia est. Et p^r ei illud suffic' emendare cit^r px' let sub peñ iij^d iij^d.

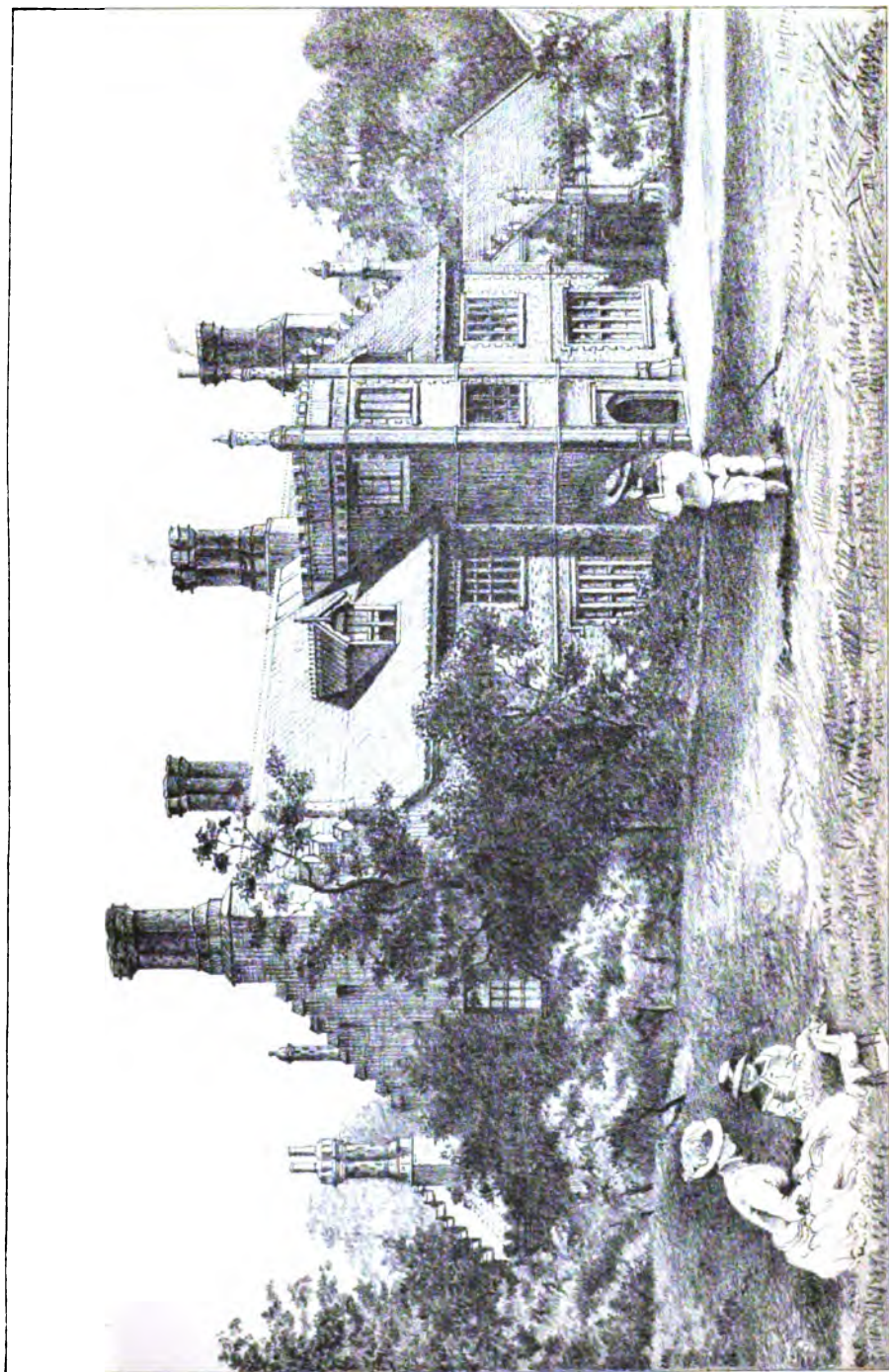
Et q^d Jacobus Calthorpp armⁱ volent' absent serv' suum ad certⁱ suas faciendⁱ hujus let prout debent. Ideo in m. Et p^r ei ne ampl ita facere sub peñ iij^d iij^d.

The only family monument remaining in the little church attracts attention mainly by reason of its uncouth inscription:

"IN ASSURED HOPE RESTETH HERE THE BODIES OF
SIR JAMES CALTHORP, Kth AND DAME BARBARA HIS WIFE
DAUGHTER TO JOHN BACON ESQ. OF HESSET.
BY HER HE HAD 8 SONS, AND 6 DAUGHTERS,
IN WHOSE SEVERAL MARRIAGES AND ISSUE THE ANCIENT GLORY OF
NAME AND FAMILY, (RESTING THEN CHIEFLY AND ALMOST SOLELY IN HIMSELF)
DID REFLLOURISH AND IS DILATATED INTO MANY OF THE BEST HOUSES
IN THE COUNTY. HE WAS BURIED THE 16 DAY OF JUNE A.D. 1616,
AND OF HIS AGE 57.
THE SAID DAME BARBARA SURVIVING HIM,
AND MUCH COMFORTED WITH THE SIGHT OF 193 OF THEIR CHILDREN
AND THEIR OFFSPRING, AT THE AGE OF 86 YEARS,
EXCHANGED THIS LIFE FOR A BETTER
UPON THE 3^d DAY OF NOV^r A.D. 1639."

The figures of this inscription, partially confirmed as they are by the parish register, may not perhaps be disputed; but a passing smile may be indulged at the verbose pomp and circumstance of its vaunting pretensions. Notwithstanding our modern "*Hecuba, centumque nurus*," the Cockthorp branch in reality was about to wither on the stem, while other fruitful scions were *dilatating* elsewhere. Calthorps were then living, not only in London, and at Antingham, but at Dunchiddock near Exeter, Wingfield in Suffolk, and even in Calthorpe itself; and Gybbons, at this date, in search of materials for the *Vitis*, received from a collateral, John Calthorp of Fincham, the following memorandum, worth preserving for its quaintness:—"My great grandfather was a gentleman, yet, I think, a younger son. He came, I think, from the South, by reason of the good English he writ. He had, as I remember by his will, 2 sons and 3 daughters. He came a single man into Lincolnshire, and there married. His sons were both married, and their grandchildren were living at Pinchbeck."

But leaving these speculations, we turn to the safer ground of registers and monuments, and the equally tangible evidence of brick and mortar. The Wolterton manor-house at East Barsham, although now roofless, and reduced to broken walls, is one of the finest examples of moulded brick-work in the kingdom. The humbler mansion of Thorpland Hall, where these lines are written, was apparently the work of the same builders; and the so-called "Clamp Meadow," on the stream midway between them, points to the same conclusion. The chimney-shafts and porches, with other details of the two houses, are so fully illustrated in Pugin's *Gothic Architecture* as hardly to need description. Nevertheless, a photograph, taken from the leads of Thorpland, enables us to bring near, not only the Stapleton (?) lion and Tudor rose crowned, which decorate the chimneys, but also the original approach; formerly a public road, but now



Printed by J. S. GARDNER, 1881.

THORPLAND HALL 1881.



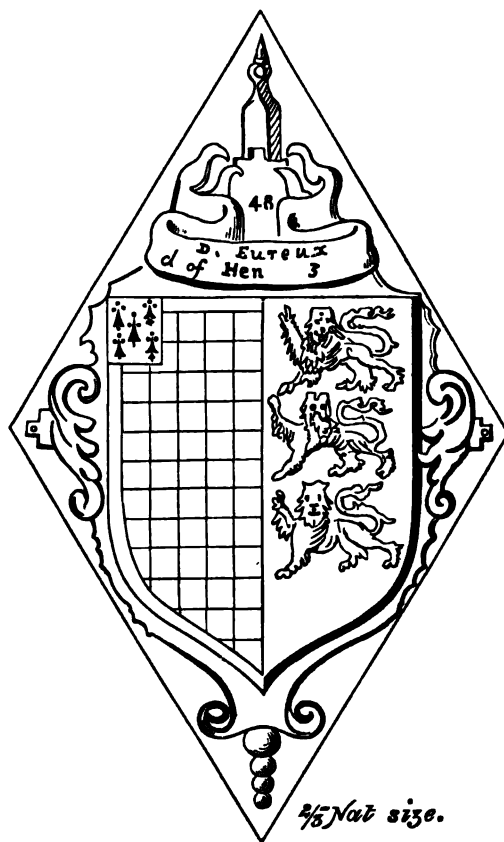
converted into a kitchen garden. In the latter of these houses, Sir Christopher, the last male Calthorp of his line who attained majority, brought up a numerous family. From the former he was doomed to follow them, with the exception of his eldest daughter, to the house appointed for all living, in his parish church at Fakenham.

The acquisition of these manors, by the marriage of James his father with the heiress of the Fermors, is noticed by no less a chronicler than Sir H. Spelman; who, having thoroughly explored the Walsingham Deanery, was doubtless told at Cockthorp of the matrimonial engagement by Dame Barbara herself. "*Relictâ Walsinghamiâ, et villis in confinio croceos anhelantibus odores, Bashamiæ sub illo tempore ædes condidit istius tractûs illustr. Gulielmus Fermor, eques potens, e cujus jam familiâ ad Calthorpos nuptiis transituræ sunt.*"

The bridegroom might well quit Cockthorp, for he found at East Barsham, in the Wolterton manor-house, a new and sumptuous mansion, completed at great cost, and in a style of unusual magnificence. A series of raised medallions, in sound and ornamental brickwork, in which the jewelled coiffure of Henry of Lancaster and Elizabeth of York alternates with Tudor roses, forms a deep string course on the façade of the exterior, and carries the mind back to the date of its erection. A corresponding richness prevailed in the hall and corridors; and the aid of heraldry was invoked to assist in recalling the memory of the old lords of the manor, the Wodes, the Gournays, and the Woltertons. The whole design was completed by a stately gate-house, on which the arms of England were supported by the lion and griffin, indicating a later date than the rest of the building; and, as if to mark the day when Henry VIII., as a royal pilgrim to Walsingham, may have once passed beneath it.

The husband, on his side, had contributed to this alliance a full proportionate share, whether of land or lineage, and could surround his escutcheon of pretence with noble or even

royal achievements; of this the diamond quarry, engraved in illustration, may be adduced as a specimen. It formed one of a series which passed from an oriel window of the Wolterton manor-house, through the hands of Sir John Fenn the archæologist; and was properly restored by a



subsequent possessor to the third Lord Calthorpe. His portrait, the "Vera effigies Jacobi Calthorp armⁱ æt. 38, A.D. 1642," is best known to us from the engraving in Blomefield, vol. iii. fol. Its original was perhaps intended as a present to his second bride, a daughter of Sir Edward Lewknor of Denham, Suffolk; and, although the din of

arms was resounding in the west of England, its echoes were not thought loud enough to disturb a Norfolk honeymoon. We have no reason to conclude that this remarkable portrait was in any way exaggerated; on the contrary, we see him as he was, habited in the silver gorget, which was hung up afterwards in his hall at East Barsham, and figures as the first item on the roll of his personal estate, preserved among the Hunstanton muniments. As a staunch Norfolk Royalist he deliberately adopted the costume of the Cavalier, in opposition to the cropped tresses of the Roundhead. We should be warranted in this conclusion by the high official standing of his uncle, Sir Henry, in the service of the Crown; and the name Henrietta Maria, given by Sir Henry to his youngest daughter. Of his equipments we may form a notion (allowing for the lapse of years) when we read some of the bequests which came down from his grandfather, A.D. 1558: "To Thomas my sonne one almayne revett with *spents*, pair of *splents* (garde-de-bras, *Prompt. Parv.*), salette, gorgett, and bill." "To Christopher my son all the rest of my harness, which is for viii men complete, with bills, salletts, skulls, *spents*, gorgetts, and all things belonging." And Sir James, as Lieut.-Col. of "a regiment of ffoote" at Barsham, writes to the constables of Greenhoe "to have their men ready to march at an hour's warning." — *Hunstanton Muniments*.

In looking at the burly frame and jovial countenance of the "Vera Effigies," as connected with the subsequent history of James Calthorp, late of Cockthorp, and now of Cockthorp and East Barsham, we are reminded of the "girding on" and "putting off" of the armour. He was still in the prime of life, and the names of his infants, Fermor Calthorp the elder and Fermor Calthorp the younger, inscribed on their mother's monument, read like a mockery of destiny. In a few short years he died, and his second wife, Catharine, a widow, on May 6th, 1652,

administered to his effects. A touching inscription on a brass plate, which still remains attached to the wall of the East Barsham almshouse, refers to the early death of the last of these infants, and anticipates, as it were, the sequel of his own eventful life:—

BONI SI QUID HABEO A DEO SYMPSI NON A ME PRÆ SYMPSI ; NEC IN EO QVOD
JAM DONAVIT INGRATVS NEC IN EO QVOD ADHYC
NON DONAVIT INCREDVLVS

Meantime, an amusing episode, which occurred some years afterwards, during his life as a widower, may be here properly inserted, as introductory to our remaining notice of him. The manor of Fakenham Lancaster, which formed part of the Duchy, had been purchased from the Crown by the Lady Hatton, the intriguing second wife of Coke the Chief Justice. The manor passed at her decease to the Hon. Robert Villiers, nephew of the Duke of Buckingham, in right of his wife Frances, who was Lady Hatton's youngest daughter; and he sold it in 1647 to James Calthorp for £1500. This acquisition increased his Thorpland estate to 650 acres, to which extent in 1650 it was rated at threepence in the £. (*Hunstanton Muniments*), and it explains to us the motive for his son's preference of Fakenham as the family burial place. The letter has been kindly communicated by Mr. L'Estrange from among the *Hunstanton Muniments*:—

Temple
4 Dec. 1641

“ To my much honoured Brother James
Calthorp Esq.

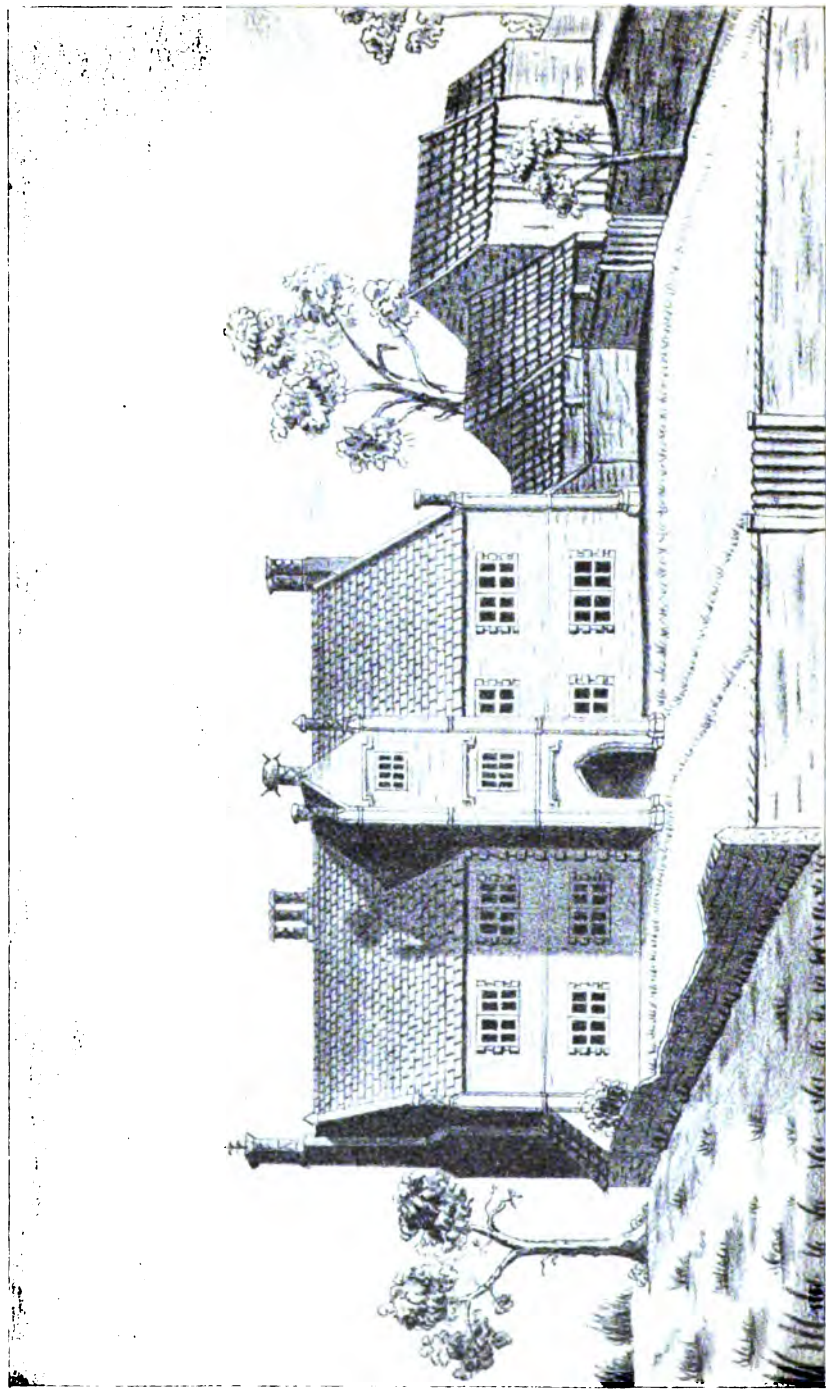
p'sent these

“ My best Brother

I have soe acted the parte of an Embassodur (that I feare when y^e Prince falls to a treaty I shall not want Employ^{mt}) only I have much exceeded my co'mission in interesting my Lady Calthorp and my brother Charles in giving them a view, and they say a woeman can best judge a woeman; and then I doubt not but you will co'mend my approving of my Lady Poley choice for you wherein I hope my Lady was but an Instrument, but he that guides the stars hath ordained it for a great blessing and comfort unto you a good wife being a giuft of the Lord, and I am

perswaded according to my Lady report you will find her a humble and sanctified woeman of a fit stature to breed a Sir James Calthorp mightly well fashioned, and as well beloved. 23 years of age, a brave kinred and most of them wondrous handsome. I have sent letters gratulatory both from her and M^r Cro'well. She did soe overmatch me and my Lady Calthorp also in the choice of my fellow embassodour that I must say I never sawe soe much beauty soe richly inwardly deckt and furnish't w^{ch} is (?) Sir Rob^t Karr Lady never did I heare such language wth soe sweete a grace wth soe great temper of wisdome and modesty that had not her servants told she was a Lady I should have conceived her no humane Wight that even my Lady Calthorp was struck into admiration and durst Hardly venture a word but those few she did was solely and wholly in yo^r com'enda'con for which you are oblig'd to her by way of gratitude. At last after an houers debate she made choice of Sir Thomas Hatton to conclude all wher in less than an hower I finish both yo^r barganes but I am afraid you will for both be cordially angry but in this I wash my hands doing for you as I would doe for my selfe if I have erred & 'is error amoris not amor erroris. I have agreed to settle Thorpland house with 500^l per ann and yo^r new Purchase of Fakenham upon her for iointuer the remainder to the heires males of your body on Lucy Karr begotten the remainder to yo^r right heires. I have also contracted with my Lady Hatton to pay for Fakenham cum pertin^e 1000^l upon the sealing and delivering of the assur . . . and 1000^l moer upon midsom'er day, 1641. Methinks I see you blush I hope for love not anger Under 2000^l I could not get there being 2 that offered y^t same sune only my Lady having promised M^r Bedingfield you should have y^e refusall would not but be noble in her worde and my L^d Coke's position (though his practise was otherwise) was land deerly bought was mostly quietly enioyed occasio calva est and I durst not omitt this opportunity fearing you should more blame me for the one than for the other knowing you are only a lover of money to supply necessity. I have likewise without direction made a purchase of honour for you for my Lady Dutchess of Lennox have 2 h^{ts} (hereditaments?) given her I made Payne Chadenver reserve one for you y^r price 600^l I have also provided 1000^l of my Cosin John Pepys w^{thout} w^{ch} fuel y^r irons will not Heate. M^r Bedingfield likewise offers me 500^l upon a fortnight's warning, but that I leave you to take or refuse upon o^r enterview y^e desier of M^r Karrs lands making me have many suitors for that I hope I have wth much ease and little distraction of my owne . . . business finish'd yours and that you are only to act y^r p^t of





THORPLAND HALL 1795.

COMPILED BY THE REV. J. P. F. F. F. F. F.

S^t George up and ride. To w^h God give his goode blessing of comfort and happineſſe unto you my nephewe's occasions stayes my coming down to my house untill Saturday when if you please there to make up the sweet harmony of conversation and bring my brother Strutt's will with you you shall honour him that loves you

Yo^r Servant

H. Mordaunt.

The above curious bargain led (as might be expected) to no actual result, and the second marriage with Catharine Lewknor soon put an end to the delusions of the match-makers. She found herself in early life the mother of three sons, the eldest of whom, the future Sir Christopher Calthorp, (K.B. at the coronation of Charles II.) became at his father's death the almost unconscious possessor of a princely heritage, as well as the representative of a lineal succession unbroken for ten generations. His prospect on entering life was one of unclouded sunshine, and his coming of age was the signal for his marriage. He took up his abode at first with his mother in the Wolterton manor-house, and the East Barsham register thus records the baptism of his first child, who alone unmarried survived him :—"Elizabetha Calthorp filia Christopheri Calthorp militis Balnei et Dominæ Dorotheæ uxoris ejus baptizata fuit sexto die Martii, 1666." The birth of a second daughter, and probably other circumstances, the forecast of a numerous family, now led to his migration to the adjoining mansion at Thorpland, as the following extract from the Barsham register may testify ; and it is only from this register, combined with the Fakenham monuments, that we now put together the last links of our pedigree, and can throw some light on the abode of the last Calthorps :—

Anno. Dom. 1670 "Mad^{ma} Catharina Calthorp nata fuit maiæ decimo tertio 1670, circiter horam nonam antemerid et baptizata fuit apud Thorpland maiæ decimo octavo existente die Mercurii per me Simonem Lombe et sequente die ibidem declarabatur baptiz. per magistrum Carolum Robotham Rectorem in Fakenham."

From this time onwards, for a period of fourteen years, no baptism of a Calthorp occurs in the Barsham register, and as five sons and six daughters now rest with their parents in the family vault at Fakenham, we may safely conclude that most of them were born at Thorpland, and their birth duly recorded in the lost Fakenham registers.

Seldom has a morning of promise been succeeded by a darker evening than in the case of Sir Christopher. In possession of his clear faculties, but "under a lingering distemper," on April 6th, 1717, he had made his last will; but only six days afterwards was compelled to write a codicil; for in that short interval, the body of his daughter Catharine (after a long sickness) had been carried to the Fakenham vault; while his only little grandchild, in whom his hopes centred, being "now under infirmity," survived him but a short time.

Of an eminently religious mind, and desiring to be buried "according to the form appointed in the Liturgy only, and without any sermon," he seems to have been consoled by a diligent and faithful pastor, Thomas Wright, B.D., to whom he leaves a vicarage with other endowments; and who records his gratitude in no measured terms on a fly leaf of the Barsham register.

The bulk of his estates, which had not gone by settlement on the marriage of his daughter Lady Le Strange, vested in his daughter Elizabeth, to whom meantime he had specially bequeathed his "head mansion-house called Thorpland House, with the outhouses, gardens, and orchards, the meadows called Dovehouse and Hall Meadows, two oak groves the Six-acre Close, Stocks Pitt Hill and Pit, and all those cow pastures, as well Broom Hill and medows late in mortgage to Mr. Edward Calthorp of Southwark, as well other cow pastures and medows in Fakenham, Thorpland, and Great Snoring, under covenants of hulving, and all those arable lands hulved which are in my own hands." We find room

for this extract, not as a mere register of old names⁶ and conditions long since forgotten, but rather as enabling us to follow out the possession, and note the progress of decay, through which the two mansions were now beginning to pass. Thorpland (we shall find presently) contained sundry old pictures and relics of past centuries; but, in common with the Wolterton Manor-house, it was doomed to a longer abandonment, of exactly thirty years. By the death of Elizabeth Calthorp they changed hands, and went in different channels.

This lady, although living at a distance to a very advanced age, had kept up cordial relations with the elder branch of her family at Ampton, as well as with her cousins at West Barsham and Gressenhall; and a few extracts from her will shall now conclude our notice, as the best supply of information derived from the fountain head. She entitles it "the last will and testament of me Elizabeth Calthorp, now the only surviving daughter of Sir Christopher Calthorp, K.C.B., made March 13th, 1743;" and after particular directions for her funeral in the church at Hunstanton, and bequests to various parishes, it proceeds—"I now give and devise my part of East Barsham, which falls to me of course by the death of my dear sister, the Lady Le Strange, all the moieties of Manors of Barningham, East Barsham, West

⁶ The extinction of old names, as well as their persistence under difficult circumstances, is remarkably illustrated in the "Olink Closes," now rated to Fakenham as a portion of the Thorpland estate. They obtained this name from a mediæval owner, "Johannes de Clint," who describes them in his charter of donation to the Abbey of Walsingham (see *Walsingham Reg.* p. 74, Cott. Nero E. 7) as part of his "cultura, quæ vocatur Scortegorsholm," i.e. the holm, or sandy hollow, from which the gorse or furze had been scored, or scoured; and situated "juxta viam quæ ducit de Crek ad Norvicum." This way is now the Fakenham "Long Lane," and the "scoring," for cutting down brushwood, is the usual term in Norfolk; and the Whin Hill Plantation marks the locality (probably synonymous with the Broom Hill of Sir Christopher) traceable at the present day.

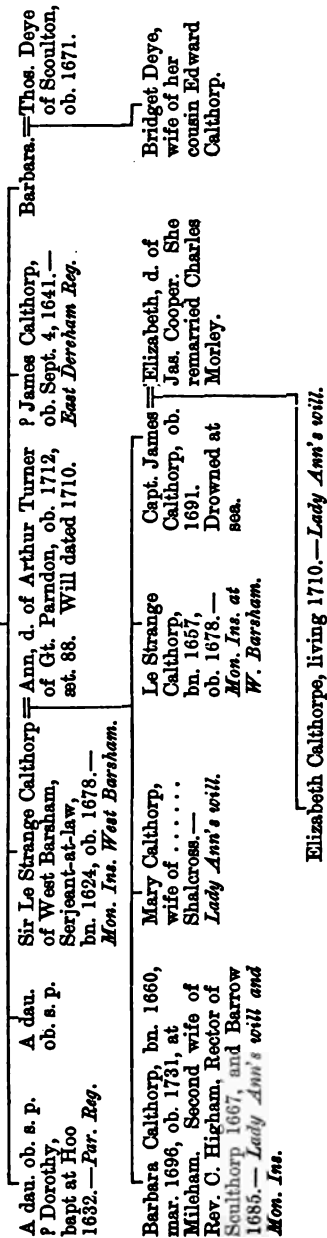
Barsham alias Wekyn, and also all that moiety of all that capital messuage or mansion house called East Barsham Hall, and of all that farm in the occupation of Mr. Richard Dugate; my share in that library (with any exceptions I shall make in this will or codicil) to Sir Thomas Le Strange and his heirs for ever; as well as Wissingsett, if he can save the sale of it; for I am sure none of our estates have ever answered what he might expect, with vast repairs, tenements, breachings, and great taxings. Therefore I had need allow a valuable consideration to approve myself just to so worthy a gentleman, that did such honour to our sinking family. My own estate at Thorpland, given me for my fortune, paying an annuity of £20, which I discharged upon my sister's marriage; and the lawyers that made the wedding articles said there was no intailles upon any of our estates, and this was wholly at my dispose, and have since made more repairs than was done in 30 years—and now I give and bequeath it at my death to my cousin James Calthorp, the present heir of the Ampton family, to help to support our name, with many pictures and things in that house, which I shall enlarge upon in my codicil, and hope he will take it friendly, and make no disputes; for since the last of our line is gone, the estates are vested at our dispose. I desire he would give his brother Henry and sister Fairfax £100 each, and let Crowder have his 14 acres."

In less than a year afterwards she added a new codicil, thus entitled and amended. "Codicil to the use of my will, Feb. 9th, 174 $\frac{2}{3}$, Blotted out several things, given to James Calthorp of Ampton before my death."

"Having many changes, since I writt my codicil annexed to this my old will, I now make a new one, to my last will made March 13th, 174 $\frac{2}{3}$, with reference to both my old codicils for trifles; and also to my old will, having several things not worth inserting here, being too tedious."

"Having settled by will my estate at Thorpland upon

(p.)



James Calthorp, heir of the Ampton family, at my decease, I further give him the ring of table diamonds set in three sorts of table lozingers, and Sir Lestrangle Calthorp's picture set in gold, according to Cosen Barbara Heigham's order and directions, when she gave me them for life, and then to the heir of Ampton family, to remember Lestrangle Calthorp's eldest daughter, and my [gilt cup and cover, erased in orig.] lieu of my silver basin, given by his family at Ampton to ours, as a legacy. All my escotcheons, the work of Lady Calthorp that was Bacon, and buried at Cockthorp, and Mr Whiting's books, that was transcribed by me, with the Calthorp's arms up'on 't [and the mass-book in my hands, given by the Drurys to our family, erased in orig.], and desire he will give his Uncle Reynolds Calthorp's son Henry £20 to buy trifles, now Sir Henry Calthorp. To my 3 tenants and their wives—that is Mr Rix and wife [Mr. Dugate and wife, erased in orig.] Mr Ratcliff and wife each 20 shillings. To cousins Barbara, daughter of Eliza Seaman, Thornton's daughters, Sutton and Shaw, &c. I desire Cosin Calthorp may have some of the pictures and furniture left at Thorpland Sir Thomas Le Strange don't chuse, for it belong to him and he may take what he please first, and some things Catherine Taylor have a note of. Some trifles I have already disposed of, and perhaps may to Cosen Calthorp before my death, which may be crossed out in my codicil. I give to Rev^d Wilson 10 divinity books, either in East Barsham Study, or nine at Hunstanton. To Cosin John Swain a bed that was his Aunt Strutt's."

Thus the Cockthorp line ends like that of Burnham in the person of a female, Elizabeth, and in tracing their lineage we obtain a connected record of a distinguished Norfolk family for above ten generations.

"Indulgent memory wakes, and lo ! they live
Tinted in softer hues than light can give."

Their estates, by the laws of succession, are dispersed in



Notice of a Stone Cross

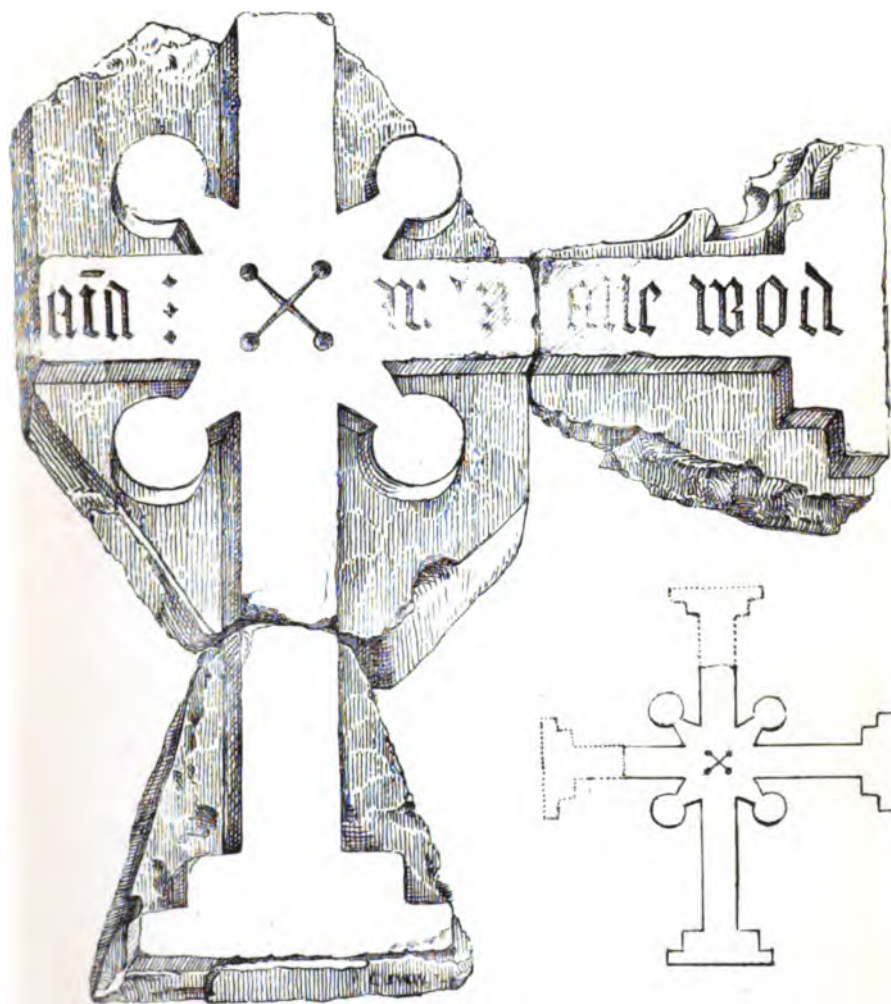
FOUND ON TAKING DOWN THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL
AT SIDESTRAND, NORFOLK, 1881.

COMMUNICATED BY

JOHN GUNN, ESQ., M.A., F.G.S.

THE church of St. Michael in Sidestrand stood on the edge of a lofty cliff, which was yearly encroached upon by the sea. Its condition was ruinous, and it was determined to take it down, and to build another with the materials, on the model of the old church, in a more retired and safer spot.

On taking it down, the very remarkable, and perhaps unique, stone cross, here figured, was discovered, in a fragmentary condition. Mr. Cornish, the contractor, informs me in a letter that three several pieces of it were found "in the filling in above the wall-plate on the south wall of the nave; the fragments were not all together, but all were on the same wall." It appears to have been originally cruciform, with steps at the termination of each of the four limbs. Only two of the steps are preserved, but there can be no doubt that when perfect there were four. The limbs were $11\frac{1}{2}$ inches long measured from the middle of the small cross incised in the centre, except the



0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 inches.

STONE CROSS AT SIDESTRAND.



lower, which is one inch longer, and might have been prolonged considerably more. They were $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches wide, and at the angles of intersection there was a cross saltire terminating at each of its ends with a flattened cross pommée or pomel, so called, according to Guillim, from its derivation from *pomme*, an apple in French.

The flattening of the circular terminations of the larger cross saltire seems to indicate that its original position was upon the floor, just as that of an ornamental cross on the east of the font at Barningham Winter Church, which has been sacrificed to the spirit of restoration. The termination of the four limbs with steps seems more admissible, if it were laid upon the floor, so as to be approached on every side, than it would be if raised in the air as a gable-cross, or affixed to a wall laterally. Besides, the wearing away of part of the stone, of "fine Barnac," which is very durable, and of part of the inscription, may be regarded as a proof that it had been trodden upon when laid upon the floor.

The inscription has been so much obliterated as to be difficult to decipher. It appears to have been *Gratt p aia Willi atte wod.* I am indebted to the Rev. C. R. Manning, our Honorary Secretary, for pointing out the name of Attewood in Blomefield's *Norfolk*, vol. viii., p. 170, as a patron of the living; and to Dr. Bensly for pointing out to me the more ancient way of spelling the name "atte wode" in accordance with the inscription in the Institution Books in the Registry of the Bishop. It appears from them that in 1439 William atte-wode, or at the wode, being patron of the living, presented John Winter. The initial letter of the Christian name marks him as the person recorded on the monumental cross for whose soul prayers are requested; and the next presentations, in 1462 by the King, and in 1477 by John Attewode, Gen., prove that he had died then, and indicate the date of

the cross itself. I have not been able to find any cross of a similar pattern: the "Crux gradatus" appears to me to approach nearest to it, but that has a repetition of steps upon the same limb, from which it derives its name; and therefore I have come to the conclusion that it is of so interesting and uncommon a character that the name of the "Sidestrand Cross" will survive the demolition of the old church, and am glad to know that it retains a place in the new church.

A fine figure of an angel bearing a cup was discovered in the ruins of the former edifice. It appears to have been placed upon a bracket, and to have been exposed to the weather. Mr. Cornish, who is a careful observer, says that he found it attached to the mullions of the east window; but, in comparison with the size of the window, it appears to be too large for that position. It might have been placed in a niche in the former tower, which is figured by Ladbroke. The present tower, retained for mortuary purposes, is of very recent construction. On the whole, although we must record with regret the removal of one of the old churches of the land, still we must admit that there was a good cause for it, that the sea threatened to destroy it altogether, and that the new church has been built judiciously on the same pattern as the former.

I am allowed to append a few lines to Mr. Gunn's description of this cross, and I venture to differ from his view in some respects. The cross was evidently intended to be set in some surrounding work, such as squared flints; and it seems to me more probable that it was part of some external wall-decoration, rather than a gravestone. These last, when laid down on church floors, were always whole slabs, with either brasses or incised subjects upon them. I do not remember any instance of a cross such as this, of

solid bars of stone, forming part of a pavement, imbedded in tiles; while it is of course very common in the Eastern Counties to see flint panel-work on the outside walls of porches, aisles, chapels, or towers, often with inscriptions commemorating donors and benefactors, and with various designs of sacred art and symbolism. The form of this cross, with graduated ends, not uncommon in the Greek Church, is very unusual in this country. Possibly it may have been employed here as part of a larger composition, so that the arms abutted against the sides of a square or circle. The upper limb may not have had any steps at all, but may have terminated in some altogether different fashion.

C. R. M.

Coffin Stones

IN GREAT CARBROOKE CHURCH, NORFOLK.

COMMUNICATED BY

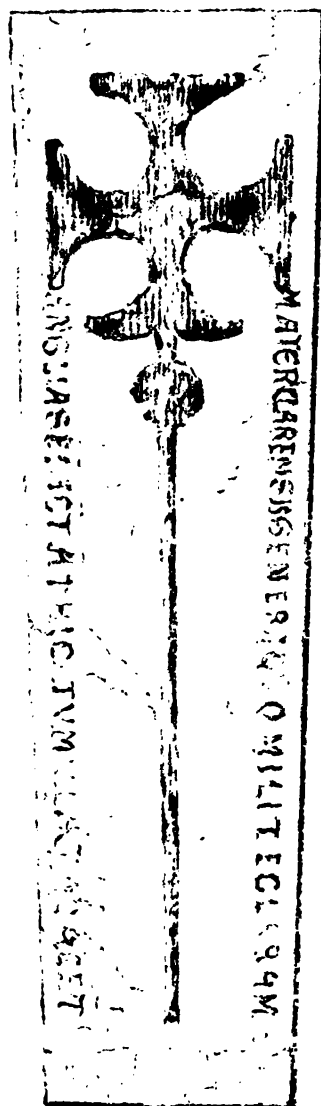
THE REV C. R. MANNING, M.A.

HON. SEC.

ON the floor in the centre of the chancel of Great Carbrooke Church are two coffin-shaped stones, of early character, on each of which is a cross of the form denoting those who belonged to the Order of Knights Templars, viz., a cross patée, rising from a stem surmounted by a knob. On each side of the stem are the letters of an inscription, extending from the arms of the cross to the bottom of the stones. This was the earlier usage for such inscriptions: the practice of the fourteenth century and afterwards being to place the letters as a border surrounding the whole composition. From this, and from the dates of the persons believed to be commemorated, it would seem that these slabs are among the very earliest inscribed ones we have in the county, the date being about the year 1200.

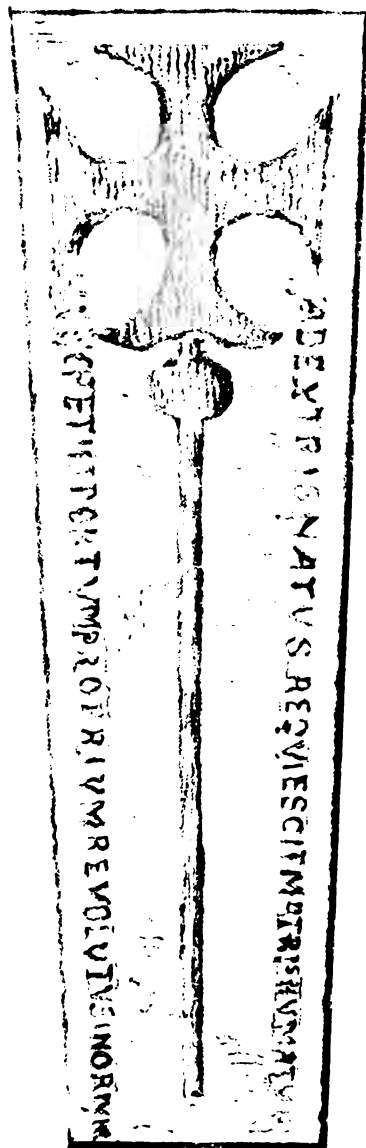
The stones are noticed by Blomefield (ii, 334) and in *The Gentleman's Magazine* for 1826 (i., 581.) They are attributed, the one to Maud, wife of Roger, Earl of Clare and Hertford, and the other to one of her younger sons, who may have been the first Commander of the Commandry or Preceptory of Knights Templars founded in the parish of Carbrooke by her. Earl Roger died in 1173 or 1174. She is supposed to have survived him, as a charter printed





NO 1.—COFFIN STONE, CARBROOKE CHURCH, NORFOLK.

ONE INCH TO ONE FOOT.



NO 2.—COFFIN STONE, CARBROOKE CHURCH, NORFOLK.

ONE INCH TO ONE FOOT.



in Dugdale's *Monasticon* (ed. 1673, ii., 884) states that she gave a mark of silver, &c., to Godstow Abbey for the soul of her father, Sir James de St. Hillary, and her mother, and for the soul of her husband, Roger, Earl of Clare.

Burke's *Extinct Peerage* says she re-married William de Albini, Earl of Arundel; but that is probably an error, as he miscalls her maiden name, making her the daughter of James de St. Sidinio. But Mr. G. T. Clark has lately stated (*Archæological Journal*, xxxv., 330) that she died before Earl Roger, and that he married a second wife. Their only children, it is usually stated, were Richard, who succeeded his father as Earl of Clare; James, of whom a miraculous cure is related in childhood, at the shrine of Becket; and Isabel, who married William Mareschal, Earl of Pembroke. But a charter, printed in Dugdale's *Monasticon* (ed. 1673, ii., 507) of Richard, Earl of Clare, confirming the gifts of his father and mother, is witnessed as follows: "Hiis testibus *Ricardo* de Clare et *Jacobo* de Clare fratribus meis, &c." It would appear, therefore, that there were two Richards, brothers; and the second may be the person here commemorated.

Blomefield thinks that the fact of the stones being in an important place, the centre of the chancel, and no name being mentioned, shows that the persons interred were of great distinction. The inscriptions are in Roman characters, two inches high, with one or two "Lombardic" forms. Blomefield's idea that they were added to the stones in the time of Henry VI., when the church, he says, was rebuilt, is quite inadmissible. They have all the character of inscriptions of the end of the twelfth century; and had they been of the fifteenth their more recent date would have been easily recognized. Gough (*Sepulchral Monuments*, i., xxxvi.) notices this mistake of Blomefield. After giving Blomefield's account of the stones, he says, "I must beg leave to differ from Mr. Blomefield, both as to the date

of the inscriptions, their import, and the lady. I suppose the inscriptions are cut in the Saxon capitals, and show that *she* was a *Clare* rather by *birth* than *marriage*, and that *he* might be a younger son of Earl Roger."

As far as can be made out, they read as follows:—

No. 1. MATER CLARENSIS GENER[I QVO] MILITE CLARAM
ANGLIA SE IACTAT HIC TVM[VLATA IACE]T

i.e., apparently, "Here lies buried a mother of the family of Clare, by a soldier of which [family] England boasts herself renowned."

The lady's name is not mentioned; and who was the illustrious soldier? Probably Roger, husband of Maud, of whom Burke says, that from his munificence to the Church, and his numerous acts of piety, he was called "the Good."

No. 2. A DEXTRIS NATVS REQVIESCIT MATRIS HVMATVS
[HVNC] PETIIT PORTVM PROPRIVM REVOLVTVS IN
ORTVM

"A son rests interred at the right hand of his mother. Returning to his own birth, he has sought this harbour." "His own birth" appears to mean the source of his own life, *i.e.*, his mother.

Both epitaphs are specimens of the laboured efforts, common at the time, to force double meanings out of words. It would be interesting to have clearer proof who this son was; and also who the mother was for certain. The crosses denote Templars; but I suppose females would not be admitted to the order, and therefore the first stone could hardly be the memorial of any but the foundress of the house at Carbrooke, the Countess Maud. She appears to have given the Preceptory here to the Order of St. John of Jerusalem in 1192. (Dugdale's *Monasticon*, ed. 1673, ii., 546.)

On Married Clergy in Norfolk

IN THE THIRTEENTH CENTURY.

COMMUNICATED BY

THE REV. AUGUSTUS JESSOPP, D.D.

AT what point the science of archæology, which is chiefly concerned with the study of arts and manufactures in bygone times, passes out of its own domain and crosses the frontier which separates it from the realm of history, is a question often asked, and to which the best answer is the frank admission that there is no answer to be found. The researches of the archæologist are always tending towards definite results; and in proportion as he arrives at certainty in his enquiries, in that proportion is he adding to the conclusions which history at once appropriates. For archæology is concerned with collecting facts which history may use, and when these are accumulated in sufficient multitude, the historian can generalise upon them and draw his inferences, but not till then.

Hence it is not sufficient to say that archæology has to do with unwritten evidence alone, and that history claims the written records of the past as her own, with which archæology has little or no concern. There is always a huge mass of literary evidence which it is the province of archæology to interpret, and which until it has been so interpreted by the specialist is useless to the student of

history. Such evidence is treasured up in coins, inscriptions, fragments of ancient laws, charters, and even monastic chronicles.

The habits of minute investigation which archæological research tends to strengthen sometimes enable the antiquarian to discover clues to the solution of important problems which have escaped the sagacity of the historical inquirer, whose view extends over a wider area, while the other cares little about a distant horizon.

I have thought it needful to say thus much by way of preface to the paper which, at the request of our accomplished Secretary, I have ventured to contribute to our Proceedings, because some may be inclined to demur to the choice of a subject which I have made as not strictly one which concerns archæology. If I were not prepared to defend myself against such an objection I should not trouble the reader with it; but the considerations which I have briefly touched upon will, I trust, shew the Members of our Society that there is much to be said for a different view than that which would place too strict and narrowing a limit upon the range of investigation which an archæological society may legitimately pursue.

The subject which I propose to bring before the Society is, Clerical Celibacy in East Anglia in early times.

It is well known that there arose very early in the Christian Church a strong feeling against the marriage of the clergy, and in favour of celibacy generally as a higher state than the married state.

With the growth of that religious phrenzy which shewed itself in the enormous increase of monachism in Egypt during the third century, and developed all over the Christian world during subsequent ages, there grew up inevitably an exaggerated notion of the merit of abstaining from marriage, until the married clergy began to be looked upon with suspicion, distrust, and scorn.

Let no man mistake me if I say that in our own days we can find a striking parallel to the old movement in favour of total abstinence from marriage in the movement that is going on in favour of total abstinence from alcohol. All of us must have heard language so violent and denunciative on this subject as to make us feel sure that it only requires a little, a very little, additional power to be in the hands of the more unwise and passionate agitators to end in making it extremely difficult, in another generation or two, for I will not say a clergyman only, but for any man who has his bread to earn, to retain the semblance of Christian liberty in this matter. As to marriage the agitators continued to gain ground, and by the middle of the seventh century it is hardly too much to say that over the larger part of Christian Europe a married clergyman was looked upon as a black sheep, to be avoided as much as if he were a drunkard.

It was at the close of this seventh century that the kingdom of East Anglia first began to be greatly affected by the prevailing hankering for the monastic (or as it would be more correctly called the *cænobite*) life, and just on the borders of the East Anglian kingdom those splendid monasteries were founded which were once the pride of England, and which now must be sought for in the glorious remains of buildings that a subsequent age delighted to raise up to heaven, and which another generation reduced more or less to ruins. For be it remembered that Ely and Peterborough, Thorney and Crowland, were all within or close upon the frontiers of East Anglia; though the desolate fens in which they were set down were so inaccessible and forbidding that no one cared to assert any jurisdiction over such howling wastes. These four monasteries, then, which must be recognised as East Anglian monasteries, necessarily exercised an immense influence upon the religious life of our forefathers, and upon their social life; and for at least

two hundred years the monks were the educators and the civilisers of the little kingdom. The monasteries, too, were the treasure-houses and banks of deposit, the places where deeds and wills and other records were kept, the refuges for the oppressed, the sanctuaries in fact which our East Anglian ancestors, then become Christian, regarded with veneration and, if you will, with superstitious awe. As long as the monasteries flourished and the monks retained their influence, it is probable that the parish priests only married on the sly, and that in fact the country clergy who had wives were tabooed. That there *were* parochial clergy and churches in great numbers too in East Anglia in the seventh, eighth, and ninth century is quite certain, but this I cannot stop to prove.¹

It was in East Anglia that the terrible Danes made their first permanent settlement in the year 866 A.D. While they were away next year, burning and slaying in other parts of England, something like a crusade was organised against them, and when they returned in 869 from their forays the East Anglians rose up against them under their king Edmund the Saint. The Danes were too strong for the wretched Christian people, and then ensued a frightful slaughter and much wasting and sorrow; but in the year 870 the whole Danish host started for a raid upon the fen country and the monasteries. They sacked Peterborough and Ely and Thorney and Crowland: they pillaged them all, and they hardly left a single monk alive. There stood the blackened ruins of the old buildings for many a long day; but the monasteries in East Anglia were suppressed and very effectually suppressed, though not for the last time.²

¹ Consult Note r, p. 445, in Bright's *Early English Church History*, and see *infra*.

² The main authority for all that is stated above is in the *Anglo Saxon Chronicle*. Young archæologists will find the volume of Bohn's *Antiquarian*

We hear no more of East Anglian monks for nearly a hundred years; but when the great revival of the monasteries came about in the tenth century, under Oswald Bishop of Worcester, and Athelwold Bishop of Winchester, supported by the great Dunstan, it appears from the entries in the *Chronicle* that the Cœnobites had never recovered from the rough handling they had received, that the great mass of the East Anglian clergy were married, and that the old monastic buildings, which had been destroyed a century before, were occupied by married canons, exactly as the monastic buildings in this city of Norwich are at this moment occupied by married canons living under some lax discipline of their own.³ How firmly these were settled in their occupation, how completely they were recognized as respectable members of society, may appear from the fact that, strongly as Dunstan wished to back the monks and bring about a different state of things, he never was able to get rid of the canons from his own cathedral at Canterbury, and there they stayed during all his long primacy.⁴ It was otherwise with the canons who were settled at Ely. These were summarily driven off with a high hand by Bishop Athelwold. So were those who were living a harmless life at Bury St. Edmund's. So were the Peterborough canons. The married men were treated with very little ceremony, and when King Canute took up

Library, which contains Bede's *Ecclesiastical History* and the *Anglo Saxon Chronicle*, all that they require, and vastly more interesting than they expect.

³ Consult Professor Stubbs' magnificent Introduction to *Memorials of S. Dunstan*, in the Rolls Series, p. 118 et seq.

⁴ See *Dunstan and his Policy*, in the late Mr. E. W. Robertson's *Historical Essays*, published by Edmonstone and Douglas, 1872. There are very few volumes printed in the lifetime of the present generation which can compare in solid value for the historian with this wonderful collection, and none that I have ever seen which has been rendered more repulsive by the printer's art.

the cause of the monks, and founded his great abbey of St. Benedict at Hulm among the Norfolk Broads,⁵ and sent a dozen fresh monks to colonize Bury St. Edmund's anew, and himself went a pilgrimage to Rome,⁶ doubtless bringing with him on his return the last new ecclesiastical fashions, and possibly impressed by the conviction that there was no holiness outside the cloister; the married clergy may have felt that there were anxious times in store for them. The seven years that followed after Canute's death were years of confusion and misery, but with the accession of Eadward, called the Confessor, the influence of the monks once more began to be in the ascendant. While Westminster Abbey was rising up towards heaven, and the vast monastery which was intended to be the glory of all lands was building, there could be little doubt as to which side the court and the great men would take in a struggle between the regulars and the secular clergy.

The reign of Eadward the Confessor extends over a period of twenty-three years and five months, viz., from the 8th June, 1042, to the 5th Jan., 1066. It was a period of transcendent importance in the history of religion and civilisation in Europe. Ecclesiastical life had become miserably tainted with venality and corruption, and it seemed to the earnest and enthusiastic spirits of the time, with Peter Damiani and Hildebrand at their head, that the only hope for the reformation of society and the Church lay in denouncing and forbidding the marriage of ecclesiastics. A crusade against the married clergy was carried on accordingly throughout Europe, and notwithstanding all the

⁵ John of Oxene, p. 19 (Rolls Series.)

⁶ Cnut was present at the ceremony of Conrad the Salic's coronation at Rome, 26th March, 1027, and therefore witnessed the riot that took place on that occasion, and the penance that was exacted from those that took part in it.—Milman, Bk. v. chap. xvi. On the date of Cnut's pilgrimage to Rome see Freeman, *Norman Conquest*, vol. ii. note n n n.

stubborn resistance of the parochial priests in north Italy, the protests of German bishops, and the silent but not less effective opposition of others in France, England, or Lorraine. The decree of the Lateran Council of 1059, which forbade any ecclesiastic living in wedlock from celebrating mass or discharging any sacred office became the law of all Churches in communion with the See of Rome, and has continued to be accepted as law from that day to the present.⁷ It is quite certain, however, that this law took a long time before it could be generally enforced. Wherever the monks were the stronger party, there the married clergy had to bear a pitiless persecution; where they were too weak to carry out their designs, the parish priests continued to live unmolested, and there is good reason to believe that in some districts they were to be found quietly settled with their families much longer than has been generally supposed.

In East Anglia, at the time of the Norman Conquest, the parochial or secular clergy were numerically a far larger body than the regulars. The fashion had indeed come in and had prevailed for some time of bestowing large tracts of land upon the revived monasteries, insomuch that even in the Confessor's time the abbots of Ely, St. Bennet's at Hulm, and Bury St. Edmund's appear by the Domesday Survey to have severally possessed almost as many manors as the Bishop of East Anglia.⁸ But the number of the country parsons was out of all proportion to those of the monks, and though they were too scattered a force to shew any-

⁷ The Canon is given in Neander, vi. 157. There is a remarkable array of original passages on the subject to be found in a note of Gieseler, vol. ii. 436. The disturbances which broke out at Milan, and generally through North Italy are well narrated by Milman, Bk. vi. chap. iii. Everything that Mr. Freeman writes is suggestive and instructive, and his remarks on the marriage of the clergy are peculiarly so, cf. vol. iv. 425, and vol. v. 223.

⁸ I have counted seventy-seven manors as belonging to the abbot of St. Benedict at Hulm alone which are noticed in the *Domesday Book*.

thing like the same compact front and unity of action as the better disciplined regulars, they were too formidable to be assailed without caution, and they hung together in their own interest in that desultory fashion which has characterised and still does characterise all their proceedings.

The *Domesday Book* shews us that there were certainly as many as three hundred and seventeen churches in Norfolk alone at the time of the Survey,⁹ and as certainly these do not comprehend all that then existed. The churches in Suffolk mentioned in the Survey have not been counted with the same minuteness as Mr. Munford brought to his careful *Analysis*, but a somewhat protracted examination has convinced me that not less than seven hundred, great and small, are specified as existing at the time of the Conquest in Norfolk and Suffolk alone. This implies the existence of a large body of clergy; for the endowments in many instances are considerable, and in the majority of cases these churches in the year 1081 are credited with a much larger extent of glebe than those same benefices enjoy in the year 1881.¹

But a body of parochial clergy too strong for the monks would be found almost always to mean a body of country parsons who would not consent to give up their right to be fathers of families and to enjoy the inestimable blessing of companionship in their homes.

Hence it can hardly be doubted that the new Church law of the Lateran Synod of 1059 must have been received with anything but equanimity in East Anglia, and it is no wonder that when half a century after this time Anselm

⁹ Munford's *Analysis of the Domesday Book of Norfolk*, p. 88. See too pp. 99 et seq.

¹ Thus the 80 acres of glebe which Burnham Thorpe possessed at the earlier date have shrunk down to 25 in our own time, the 73 acres of Shouldham to 4, the 100 acres of West Barham to 12, and the 100 acres of Langley to nil!

began his efforts to carry out that law to the letter he found much difficulty and possibly much more active opposition than has been recorded.²

As far as East Anglia was concerned how could it have been otherwise? I shall shock the prejudices of some worthy people if I dare to express my suspicion that Herbert de Losinga himself had a wife, but yet I do entertain such a suspicion.³ Whether the fact were so or not it is all but demonstrable that his three immediate predecessors in the East Anglian See were married men. These were Aelmar, brother of Archbishop Stigand, who, by fair means or foul, obtained the See of Elmham through his brother's influence in 1047,⁴ Herfast or Arfast, who was appointed to replace him as bishop by the Conqueror in 1070, and by whom the see was removed to Thetford, and William de Beaufeu, who was consecrated to that see in 1086 and held it till his death in 1091.

Of Aelmar it is expressly said in the *Domesday Survey* that he obtained the manor of Blofield with his wife, whom he married after he was bishop, and that (in default of issue I suppose) the manor came to his successor in the bishopric as to the heir in the bishop's see.⁵

The same record informs us that Bishop Arfast, Aelmar's successor, had two or more sons, who managed to get

² The Decrees of the Synod of London, A.D. 1108, given in Florence of Worcester, *sub anno*, imply that the marriage of the clergy was at least common. It is not a little curious to note that Thomas, Archbishop of York, under whose name, in conjunction with that of Anselm, the decrees of the synod were promulgated, was himself the son of a priest.—Malmesbury, *Gesta Pontificum* (Rolls Series), § 42, p. 66. Eadmer, *Hist. Nov.*, lib. I., p. 7 (Selden.)

³ I cannot read Losinga's letters in the original Latin without more than agreeing with Mr. Spurdens in regarding them as "suspiciously paternal." I can hardly understand any man not a father writing to the boys in the strain made use of.

⁴ Stubbs, *Regist. Sacr. Brit.* Malmesbury, *Gesta Pontif.*, p. 150.

⁵ *Domesday Book*, vol. ii. 194 b.

possession of the church of St. Mary at Thetford, and that they were actually in possession when the commissioners made their survey.⁶

The marriage of William de Beaufeu is not established with such absolute certainty, nor is there sufficient proof of that which Blomefield asserts unhesitatingly, viz., that Richard de Bellafago, Archdeacon of Norwich in 1107, was the bishop's son; but I think few who turn to Mr. Rye's short paper in the first volume of his delightful *Norfolk Antiquarian Miscellany*, will doubt that William de Beaufeu was a married man, and left offspring behind him.

It is not conceivable that, with this remarkable series of precedents in the persons of their bishops, the East Anglian clergy should have failed to follow the example set; and though Lanfranc and Anselm were both of them, and especially the latter, vehement declaimers against the married parsons, and though the monks continued to howl them down, and such fanatics as Eadmer, Anselm's panegyrist, denounced them as worse than infidels, yet the married clergy continued to hold their own for a surprising length of time. Thus, on the 9th November, 1194, a remarkable cause was tried at Westminster, the particulars of which are to be found in Sir F. Palgrave's *Introduction to the Rolls and Records of the King's Justiciars from the 6th Richard I. to the Accession of King John*, in which it appears that the parsons of Dunston near Norwich had always held the benefice from father to son until the death of the last parson without apparently male issue.

In the same volume we find, p. 401, among the Pleas of 20th June, 1199, one which complains of the disseising of a certain Roger, a cleric, and Nicholas his son, in respect

⁶ *Domesday Book*, vol. ii. 118 b. The names *Osbern filius Arfast*, *Ranu'phus frater ejus*, occur among the signatures to a charter printed by Dacher at the end of Lanfranc's *Works* (fol. Venice, 1745, f. 261), but I am not so bold as to build much upon their occurrence.

of a tenement at some place in Suffolk; and five years before a case is reported between Robert de Selton or Shelton on the one part, and Robert son of the priest of Shelton on the other, in a question of homage. So again among the Chancery Rolls of the 3rd John we meet with the names Absolom son of the priest, William son of the priest, Robert son of a cleric, and all these in East Anglia.

But the fact is, instances of the mention of the sons of clergy in the records of the twelfth century occur plentifully enough, and the fact of the marriage of the clergy during this period hardly requires proving. It is when we get down to the thirteenth century that married parsons are not to be met with so frequently. Indeed they were diminishing in number as the monks were increasing in repute and power. Nevertheless there is no doubt that there were married clergy in Norfolk down to the reign of Edward I. at least, and I should not be surprised if further inquiry gave us many more examples than I am able to produce.

Among the small collection of early charters relating to Keswick printed by Mr. Hudson Gurney in 1841, there are no less than three which make mention of a certain clergyman named Henry de Norwich and his wife Katherine, who together buy land at Keswyk; while amongst the witnesses to another of the deeds occurs the signature of Walter filius Presbyteri; so that at least two clergymen were married within a mile of Keswick towards the close of the thirteenth century.

It is, however, among the remarkable muniments in the possession of Mr. North at Rougham that the most curious evidence of the existence of clerical marriages in Norfolk during the thirteenth century is to be found, and that evidence is probably unique. Not only does it appear that by far the greatest landowner in Rougham during the first half of the reign of Edward I. was a certain Thomas of

Rougham, whose grandsire had been a parson, possibly the parson of the parish, and who is repeatedly named,⁷ but one of these thirteenth century charters is actually a grant in which Herbert Buzum of Wissingsett bestows his lay fee in Yelverton, together with 20s. annual rent and his daughter Emma's hand, upon William the son of Josceline the priest of Yelverton. The remarkable part of this transaction being that the Bozuns were at this time not only the chief people in the parish, but actually the patrons of the advowson, and it is more than probable that they had given the benefice to Josceline the father as they bestowed their daughter upon William the son.

So far as I have as yet been able to discover, this is the latest instance of a perfectly well authenticated marriage; but as I have remarked, it is not likely to remain the last if gentlemen who have access to ancient charters would take the pains to examine them with care.

* * * * *

[As the eleven deeds of the times of Henry III. and Edward I., which Mr. Hudson Gurney printed in 1841, are rarely to be met with, I have thought it advisable to print one of them here. (I.) The clause "*contra omnes gentes, tam Judeos quam Christianos*," is sufficient to prove that the date must be set before 1290, in which year the Jews were banished from England. Before the statute of *Quia Emptores* (A.D. 1294) charters are rarely dated; but fortunately No. 12 of the Keswick deeds is actually dated at Intwood on the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin, "*Anno R. R. Edwardi filii R. Henrici septimo*," i.e., 25 March, 1279. Five of the witnesses to this charter are also witnesses to the one I print below, which must therefore be assigned approximately to the same date.]

⁷ Among the witnesses to the charters of this period, too, I find frequently the names of *Galfridus*, described as *clericus*, and of his two sons William and Alan. All three appear as persons of some consideration in the village community.

I. Sciant presentes et futuri quod ego Johannes filius Ricardi le Moyne de Gonthorpe, concessi, dedi, et hac presenti carta mea confirmavi *Henrico de Norwico clerico et Katherine uxori sue*, pro homagio et servicio eorum, et pro quadraginta et sex solidis argenti quos mihi dederunt in gersumam, unam acram et unam rodam terre arrabilis cum pertinenciis jacentes in campo de Kesewyke, quarum predicta acra jacet ad capud de Wetelondes versus orientem, et juxta terram Ricardi de Humilyerd versus occidentem, cujus caput australe abuttat super terram Ade filie Gode de Intewode, et caput aquilonale super terram Simonis filii Simit de Kesewyke; et predicta roda terræ jacet in Wetelondes inter terram Thome Pocok versus austrum et terram Ricardi de Gauthorpe versus aquilonem, cujus capud orientale abuttat super terram quondam Johannis Nichol de Kesewyk, et capud occidentale super predictam acram, sive plus sive minus, in illis peciis terre contineatur; Habendum et tenendum de me et heredibus meis vel meis assignatis predictus *Henrico et Katherine et eorum heredibus ex eis conjunctim et legitime provenientes*, aut cuicumque et quibuscumque vel quandocumque predictus Henricus vel predicta Katerina, seu eorum heredes prenominati dictam terram dare, vendere, vel assignare voluerint et heredibus assignatorum suorum, libere, quiete, bene, in pace, et hereditarie inperpetuum; reddendo inde annuatim mihi et heredibus meis vel meis assignatis tres denarios ad duos anni terminos, videlicet ad Natale Domini tres obolos, et ad festum Sancti Johannis Baptiste tres obolos, pro omni servicio, consuetudine, secta curie, et seculari demanda. Et ego predictus Johannes et heredes mei vel mei assignati warantizabimus, defendemus, et adquietabimus predictam terram cum suis pertinenciis, sicut predictum est, predictis Henrico et Katherine et eorum heredibus prefatis vel eorum assignatis et heredibus assignatorum suorum, *contra omnes gentes, tam Judeos quam Christianos*, inperpetuum per predictum servitium; Et si contingat predictos Henricum et

Katerinam sine herede ex eis legitime procreato in fata decidere, tota predicta terra cum suis pertinenciis proximis heredibus predicti Henrici absque alicujus retenemento seu contradictione remaneat. In hujus rei testimonium presenti scripto sigillum meum apposui. Hiis testibus, Domino Jolano de Vallibus. Gregorio de Oldhaghe. Johanne de Tyvill. Willielmo le Moyne. Willielmo de Dunstone. Willielmo de Carletone. Eustachio de Curzon. Georgio de Merkeshale. Willielmo de Thweyt. Rogero de Swerdeston. Ricardo le Clerk de Swerdestone. Ada Urry. Laurentio de Jakesham. Johanne le Lef. Willielmo de Manegrene. et aliis.

II. Notum sit tam presentibus quam futuris. Quod ego Herbertus Buzun de Wichigsete concessi et dedi et hac presenti carta mea confirmavi *Willō filio Gocelini sacerdotis de Gelvertune totum Laicum feodum Cum Emma filia mea* quod predictus Gocelinus tenuit in Gelvertunia silicet In pratis. in nemoribus. et in marisco. Et etiam in aliis omnibus pertinenciis. tenendum de me et de heredibus meis. illi vel cuicumque dare vel assignare voluerit. bene et in pace. Libere quiete et in jure. atque hereditarie scilicet census viginti sol. annuatim. et ad hos terminos. ad Natale Dñi dimidiam marcam. et ad Pasca dimidiam marcam. ad festum sancti Michaelis dimidiam marcam. Pro omni servicio. consuetudine et exactione. et pro omnibus querelis. et omnibus causis. et quando ego predictus Herbertus de Wichigsete ad exercitum dñi Regis tres libras dabo ille predictus Will^{us} quadraginta denarios dabit. ad plus plus; ad minus minus; Hiis testibus. Rogero Buzun. Durando Estrange. Hamundo filio Burd. Roberto de Humo. Radulfo de Nethetun. Gocelino de Gatele. Willō Pichot. Radulfo Albo. Radulfo Camerario. Willō Brien. Galfrido de Kirkeby. Philippo de Framingham. Willō de Hauton. Ricardo de Boytun. et multis aliis.—From *Rougham Muniments*, No. 19.

The Sexton's Wheel & the Lady Fast.

COMMUNICATED BY

THE REV. W. H. SEWELL, M.A.,

VICAR OF YAXLEY, SUFFOLK.

THE design of this paper is to explain the use of an object found in Long Stratton Church, Norfolk, and of a similar one in Yaxley Church, Suffolk—the only examples known. The opinions of some esteemed antiquaries respecting the object will first be quoted. Its ascertained name will then be given, and its use described, viz., to decide upon the Lady Fast, which many people formerly were in the habit of keeping voluntarily. Authorities from the fifteenth century onwards will next be brought forward with regard to the rise of the Lady Fast. The six Lady Days of the year will be specified; one of which days was selected for the Lady Fast by the use of this object, the Sexton's Wheel; so named by Naegeorgus in his *Regnum Papisticum*, and by Googe, his English translator. The wheel was usually kept hung up by its handle in the vestry. I shall conclude by showing the manner in which it was employed.

At the meeting of the Archæological Institute at Bury St. Edmund's, in July, 1869, a full-sized representation of an unknown wheel-like object, found in the Church of St. Mary, Long Stratton, was exhibited; together with a pair of similar wheels from St. Mary's Church, Yaxley.

The Yaxley wheels, which are shown together (Plate i.), were found separate; but those in Stratton were found together (as shown in Plate ii.), united by a handle terminating in a ring. Both examples were objects of interest to antiquaries attending the evening conversazione, from the fact that in the year 1867 (August 17th), the attention of readers of *Notes and Queries* (p. 128) had been particularly directed to them. The two wheels as shown, Plate i. (the Yaxley example), and Plate ii. (that from Long Stratton), are cut out of sheet iron, variously ornamented; each pair consisting of two exactly similar circles fastened together at the centre ambo. The Yaxley wheels measure 2 ft. 6 in. in diameter, have three small holes through which a lace or string could be passed in three of the radii in each wheel, and weigh 13 lbs. avoirdupois. The Long Stratton wheels measure 2 ft. 8 in. in diameter, and 4 ft. 2 in. from the ring in the handle to the circumference opposite, A to B (Plate ii. fig. 1), have three small holes (fig. 1, *h. h. h.*) similar to the above, not however in the radii, but in the circumference of each wheel, and weigh from 15 lbs. to 16 lbs.

Suppositions as to their Name and Use.

By the time that the wheels were introduced to public notice at Bury St. Edmund's, two theories had been advanced as to their use, a door theory and a bell theory. The door theory was held by Mr. E. L. Blackburne, architect, who supposed the two wheels, found separated at Yaxley, to be the hinge-plates or hinge-fronts of one of the church doors.



PLATE I

SEXTON'S WHEEL AT YAXLEY CHURCH, SUFFOLK.





Plate II. SEXTON'S WHEEL AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH, LONG STRATTON.

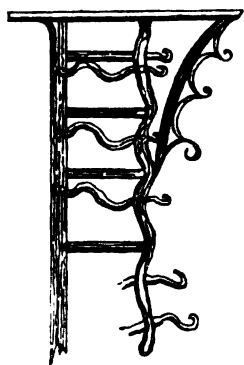


FIG 3.

FIG 1.

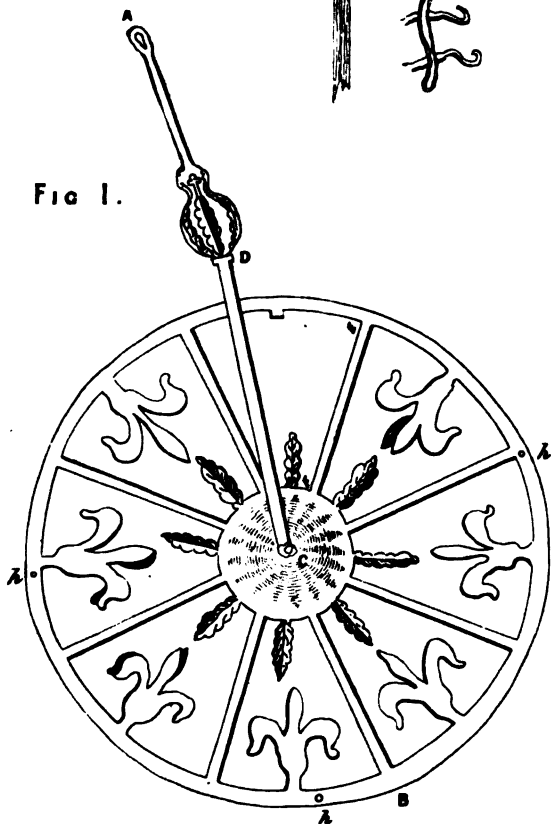


FIG 2.

SECTION FROM A TO B
Showing the String
attached to each hole (6).

SCALE OF INCHES



This theory, which in the first instance was open to some objection, received the support of so eminent an ecclesiologist as Dr. F. C. Husenbeth, who considered that they were "merely ornaments attached to a massive ring (called in East Anglia a *ringle*) for raising the latch of a church door."

The bell theory was held by the veteran patron of bells and bellringing, the Rev. H. T. Ellacombe, who gave them the name of "merry-go-rounds"—not so very wide of the mark—and supposed them to be "*Rotæ cum tintinnabulis*," or wheels with bells on them, of various ornamental forms, used in certain parts of a Celebration, as shown by Mr. Street in his work on Spain. The puzzle was submitted also to another keen antiquary, Mr. John Piggot, jun., of Ulting, who objected to the door theory the fact that although the Yaxley wheels were found separated, and so capable of being fastened to a door, those at Stratton were pinned together at the centre of the wheels, and at the extremities of the forked handle, composed of ancient work of an ornamental description. Mr. Piggot therefore inclined to the bell theory, but not without hesitation, remarking that it was certain they could not have been placed upon a door. As, however, the door theory was held by so eminent an antiquary as Dr. Husenbeth, I sent him tracings both of the Yaxley and of the Stratton wheels, and have now his letter before me. He wrote :—

Cossey, September 30th, 1868.

Rev. and dear Sir,

I avail myself of the first leisure I have had since my note to you, to return your interesting tracings, and say what I think of them.

Both those at Yaxley and Long Stratton were evidently intended for the same purpose.

I do not believe that the handle was originally attached to those at L. Stratton.

I totally reject the idea of bells having been attached to either pair, and quite concur in your objections to such a theory.

I adhere firmly to my original explanation, and am persuaded that these were ornaments originally fixed on church doors, and by pins or screws, through the small holes in some of the radii. It was not uncommon to fix such circles (I forget the proper architectural name for them—O! it is *escarbuncles*) on large church doors. Nay, they were even fastened sometimes on folding doors merely for ornament, as in the sketch I subjoin from the W. front of the Abbey Church of St. Bertius at St. Omer. Here there are six, three on each half of the folding door.

We may very well suppose that these pairs were fixed in the centre of such a door, one on each fold. One might have had the ring and long latch, the other neither, but placed merely to match his fellow.

I remain, Rev. and dear Sir,

Yours faithfully,

F. C. HUSENBETH.

I was glad to be able to agree to some extent with the advocates of these two opposite theories. I agreed with Mr. Piggot in rejecting the door theory, because the Long Stratton wheels, when discovered, were fastened together at the centre (Plate ii. fig. 1, A. D. C.) with ornamental iron-work, evidently original. I agreed also with Dr. Husenbeth in totally rejecting the idea that bells had ever been attached to either pair; and I was glad of so good an authority as the Doctor accepting my view that the Yaxley and Long Stratton wheels were evidently intended for the same purpose. From the wheels themselves it was not easy to infer very much. Judging from the handle terminating in a ring, I supposed that the object was intended either to be held up or hung up. Judging from the pome of ornamental and intricate construction (Plate ii. fig. 1, D.), and from the fact that *fleurs-de-lis* were lavished upon each wheel, it was intended for some pious employment, probably in connexion with the cultus of the Blessed Virgin, where the principle of carefulness or costliness would be likely to find place;

and judging by the wheel moving on two axes, one in the handle outside the circumference (Fig. 2, v), and another at the centre (Fig. 1, c), it was evidently intended, when suspended in space, freely to revolve from right to left, and also from head to foot.

Several years had passed, when I was so fortunate as to have in my keeping a black-letter book, containing an English poem published in Queen Elizabeth's reign—to be described hereafter—from which, for the first time, I ascertained that the curiosity which had puzzled antiquaries so long was a Sexton's Wheel, and accordingly on 17th April, 1880, I answered my own inquiry in *Notes and Queries*, and stated that the unknown object was a Sexton's Wheel, which in former times was occasionally used to determine the day for keeping the Lady Fast.

What was the Lady Fast?

There were two kinds of fasts observed in honour of the Blessed Virgin; one moveable, the other immoveable. The immoveable fast, which was one also of precept, was that kept on the Saturday of every week, having an Office proper to the day. Pope Urban II., A.D. 1086, ordained, says Thomas Becon,¹ that priests should say, every day, our Lady's Mattens openly in the church; and that upon the Saturday the whole service should be of her. Frequently in the thirteenth century a vow was voluntarily made, in honour of the Blessed Virgin,² to take but one meal, and to drink only water on a Saturday.

In the next, the fourteenth century, we meet with, I suppose, the earliest reference known to what I have termed the "Moveable" Lady Fast. This was a variable fast, voluntarily observed; and came to be thought of as and

¹ *Reliques*, ed. 1563, fol. 29a.

² Rev. T. E. Bridgett, *Our Lady's Dowry*, p. 242.

termed *par excellence* the Lady Fast, as the *more popular* one of the two kinds.

The following account of it is found in the *Scotichronicon* of Fordun. To Joannes de Fordun, or rather to his continuator, Walter Bower, we are indebted for the elucidation of the subject. Bower was born in the year 1385, and became abbot of the monastery of Inchcolm, situated upon an island in the Forth, and after completing his *Continuation* in 1447, died in the year 1449.³

ORIGINAL.

De incuriâ non sunt modice prelati redarguendi, qui plebeos in tantum patiuntur decipere, ut ad velle suum omni anno variant die ad jejunandum Mariæ, cum, ut prædicitur, ipsa invariabiliter Sabbato Apostolis hæsitantibus stetit in fide; et ideo, unâ cum aliis causis præmissis, Sabbatum sibi ad jejunandum dedicatur.

Nunc videbis tam mares quam feminas Sabbatis lautius cænare et ova manducare, qui in diebus Martis vel Jovis non gustarent panis paxillum, ne frangerent jejunium Dominæ pro talento.

Statuta jejunia ab Ecclesia, sive quatuor temporum Quadragesimæ, vel vigiliis Apostolorum, sine metu transgrediuntur, et jejunium quod voluntarie in diebus carniû assumunt, nec pro Deo vel homine

TRANSLATION.

In regard of carelessness Prelates are no little deserving of blame, who suffer the deception of common people to such an extent, as all the year through after their own will to vary from the day to be fasted in honour of Mary; when, as has been observed, she abode unshakenly in the Faith on the Saturday [i.e., the first Easter Eve] when the Apostles doubted; and therefore, for that reason, with other causes aforesaid, the Saturday is dedicated to her as a fast.

Now you will see both men and women on a Saturday make good dinners, and eating eggs, who on a Tuesday or Thursday would not touch a morsel of bread, lest they should break the Lady Fast kept after their fancy.

The fasts appointed by the Church, whether the Ember Days of the four seasons or the Vigils of Apostles, they transgress without fear; while they pretend that neither for God nor man would

³ Johannis de Fordun, *Chronica Gentis Scotorum*, ed. W. F. Skene (Preface).

effringere se velle confingunt.

they violate a fast, which of their own accord they observe on days when meat is allowed.

O voluntas propria subjecti sub-versiva, animæ inimica, Deo contraria, Diabolo consentanea; cur niteris in vetitum, acceleras ad interitum?—*Joannis de Fordun, Scotichronicon cum . . . continuatione Walteri Boweri, cura W. Goodall, ed. 1759, fol. vol. 1., p. 431. (Lib. vii. c. xlix.)*

O, self-will, the ruin of subordination, the enemy of the soul, opposed to God, consenting to the devil; why dost thou strive for the forbidden thing? why hastenest thou to destruction?

It was of course only out of reverence for the profound mystery of our Saviour's Holy Incarnation that the Blessed Virgin became the object of this devout respect. From the year 1455 never a day passed but people were reminded at noontime of their redemption.⁴

We meet with another reference to this Lady Fast in the writings of the reformer Tyndale, who suffered for his opinions A.D. 1536. Tyndale wrote:—

“And last of all what shall I say of the open idolatry of innumerable fasts; of St. Brandon's fast, St. Patrick's fast, of four holy Fridays, of St. Anthony's between St. Mary's days, of *our Lady Fast* either seven year the same day that her day falleth on in March, and then begin, or one year with bread and water” . . .—Tyndale's *Exposition of St. Matthew v. vi. vii.* Parker Society, ed. 1849, p. 98.

To the preceding passage the editor (Rev. Henry Walter) appends this note, “The Lady Fast here described seems to have been a species of penance, whether voluntary or enjoined, in which the penitent had the choice of either fasting once a week for seven years on that day of the week on which Lady Day happened to fall, beginning his course

⁴ “In that year Pope Calixtus III. ordayned that the great bell should be tolled every day, at twelve of the clock, and that people should say an Ave Maria.”—Thomas Becon, *Reliques*, ed. 1563, fol. 115.

from that day ; or of finishing his penance sooner by taking as many fasting days together, which would obviously amount to one whole year."

It is clear, therefore, from both Bower and Tyndale, that besides the stated weekly fast in honour of the Blessed Virgin, observed every Saturday, fasts were kept which lasted as many as seven years, on any week-day, even on such day as was a non-fasting day, like Tuesday or Thursday. From Tyndale we also learn that the day observed as the Lady Fast was begun on that day of the week on which the particular Lady Day happened to fall, as in March ; and the same day in every week was voluntarily fasted for seven years following ; or a person fasted instead three hundred and sixty-four (*i.e.*, fifty-two multiplied by seven) days right off, or one year on bread and water.

The Six Lady Days of the Year.

It has to be borne in mind that in the pre-Reformation Church of England there were as many as six Lady Days in the year popularly kept, all of which, indeed, are indicated in every English almanack or calendar published by the Stationers' Company up to the last, the eighteenth, century. Taking them in the order of the months they are—

1. February 2, Candlemas, or the Purification.
2. March 25, "Lady Day," or the Annunciation.
3. July 2, Visitation of B. V. M.
4. August 15, Assumption of B. V. M.
5. September 8, Nativity of B. V. M.
6. December 8, Conception of B. V. M.

It must, therefore, from the rise of this singular devotion, have been a common difficulty to decide on which of these

six Lady Days one should keep the Lady Fast. If a person vowed to fast the three hundred and sixty-four successive days on bread and water, there was then the difficulty of knowing on which day to begin. Two methods were accordingly devised for solving the difficulty. One was, to have recourse to the casting of lots, the other was to try the Sexton's Wheel.

It is easy to suppose that as the six faces of a die corresponded with the six Lady Days in the year, a simple plan of numbering them, as above indicated, would enable a person to decide on which day to begin his fast, i.e., the ace would indicate Feb. 2 as the day for commencing the Lady Fast; the deuce, March 25; the tray, July 2; and so on. But sometimes recourse was had instead to the Sexton's Wheel, as we know from Naogeorgus and Googe.

Naogeorgus and Googe.

Extracts are so often met with from Googe's translation of Naogeorgus in that valuable handbook, Sir Henry Ellis' edition of Brand's *Popular Antiquities*, that a few particulars will probably be of interest concerning Naogeorgus and Googe.

Thomas Naogeorgus is a *nom de plume* assumed by a German writer, whose real name was Thomas Kirchmeyer, born in Bavaria A.D. 1511, died 1578. The work by which he is best known is *Regnum Papisticum*. T. Naogeorgo [i.e., T. K.] autore. *Adjecta sunt et alia quædam*. Ex officina Oporini, Basileæ, 1559, 8vo. The *Regnum Papisticum* is a Latin hexameter poem. No copy exists in the British Museum of the English translation of this poem, so often quoted by Brand, and but one perfect copy (in the library of the University of Cambridge) is at present known, of which the following is the title: THE POPISH KINGDOME or Reigne of Antichrist, written in Latine by Thomas

Naogeorgus and englyshed by Barnabe Googe. 2 Tim. iii. Like as Jannes and Jambres, &c. Imprinted at London by Henrie Denham for Richard Watkins, Anno 1570, sm. 4to. Black-letter, nine pages, eighty-eight folios, paged only on one side of the page. It has lately been reprinted for subscribers.

Barnaby Googe, whose surname is variously spelt Goche, Goghe, Gouche,⁵ the translator of Kirchmeyer, was the son of Robert Googe, Recorder of Lincoln, and of his wife Margaret, daughter of Sir John Mantell. He was grandson of Lady Hales, was born in or about 1540, and entered Christ's College, Cambridge, but left the University without taking a degree, and proceeded to travel through France and Spain. In 1562 he returned to England and became a retainer of Sir William Cecil, to whom he was related, and to whom he dedicated (among several other poems and translations) his *Popish Kingdom*, and by his interest in 1563 was made one of the Queen's Gentlemen Pensioners.

It is in these author's poems, with which I became acquainted not long ago, that a description is found of the use of the Sexton's Wheel.

What, then, is the Sexton's Wheel?

I have already briefly described the object as a pair of wheels formed of sheet iron, made to revolve backwards and forwards when held up or hung up by a handle, which keeps the two wheels together. From its peculiar shape (Plate ii. fig. 1) it would be most conveniently kept hung up, when not in use, in the vestry of a church, precisely where I found the Long Stratton example, when our Society visited the fabric in September, 1866.

⁵ Mr. Arber, who has prefixed to his reprint of Googe's *Eglogs* ten closely-printed pages of interesting biography.

The accompanying illustration,⁶ in Sebastian Brant's *Ship of Fools*, Baale, 1497, folio 136, includes what is probably meant to represent a sexton's wheel, similarly hung up by a handle on the wall.



I cannot therefore consider that there is any reason to doubt, with Dr. Husenbeth, whether the handle of the Long Stratton example be original. It seems to me unquestionably

⁶ From a cast of the wood block; by permission of Mr. W. Paterson, Publisher, Edinburgh.

original. The wheel was a church ornament, and seems to have been specially put in the keeping of the sexton, whence it was known as the Sexton's Wheel.

How was the Sexton's Wheel used?

When a person wanted to know from which of the six days he should begin to keep his Lady Fast, he would pay the sexton a visit at church, and try his wheel in the vestry. The sexton, of course, kept his wheel ready for use, as shown on Plate ii. (fig. 2), with a string fastened to each of the six holes—three on each of the two wheels—assigned by some mark near each hole to the six days respectively sacred to St. Mary. Had the exigencies of metre allowed, the six strings would, no doubt, have been more clearly indicated both in Latin and English; where now the two authors speak only of one string, *i.e.*, attached to each hole. These six strings, then, were to indicate (just as the faces of the die) the six Lady Days, from one of which the Lady Fast was to commence. All being ready, the sexton, hanging up his wheel so that it would revolve freely, or (not being an infirm man) holding it up at arm's length, he perhaps gets someone to set the wheel going by both pulling it and turning it round at the same time; and while it is thus in motion, he bids the person who has come to try *to catch* one string while it revolves. The string caught indicates the Lady Day to be selected for the Lady Fast. It will be observed that the two radii, *x* to *r* (Plate ii. fig. 1), being purposely bent, prevented either wheel from making a complete revolution.

The Latin original, by Kirchmeyer, shall now be given. After animadverting upon the cultus of the Blessed Virgin, the author proceeds as follows:—

“Quin etiam Mariæ festâ jejunia luce
 Observant, rotula quam versa et jacta dedit sors.
 Quisque etenim ædituus rotulam suspendit in aede
 Signatam circum vel sex vel quinque diebus

Addictis Mariæ, totum festisque per annum :
 A quâque ad captum dependet chordula longa.
 Si Mariæ ergo venit cultor, lucemque sibi unam
 Sorte dari cupit, is rotulam convertit in orbem,
 Cultoremque jubet cursu comprehendere filum.
 Inde diem discit, stata quo jejunia servet,
 Plurimaque in Mariæ faciatque et pendat honorem."

Lib. III., ed. 1559, p. 110.

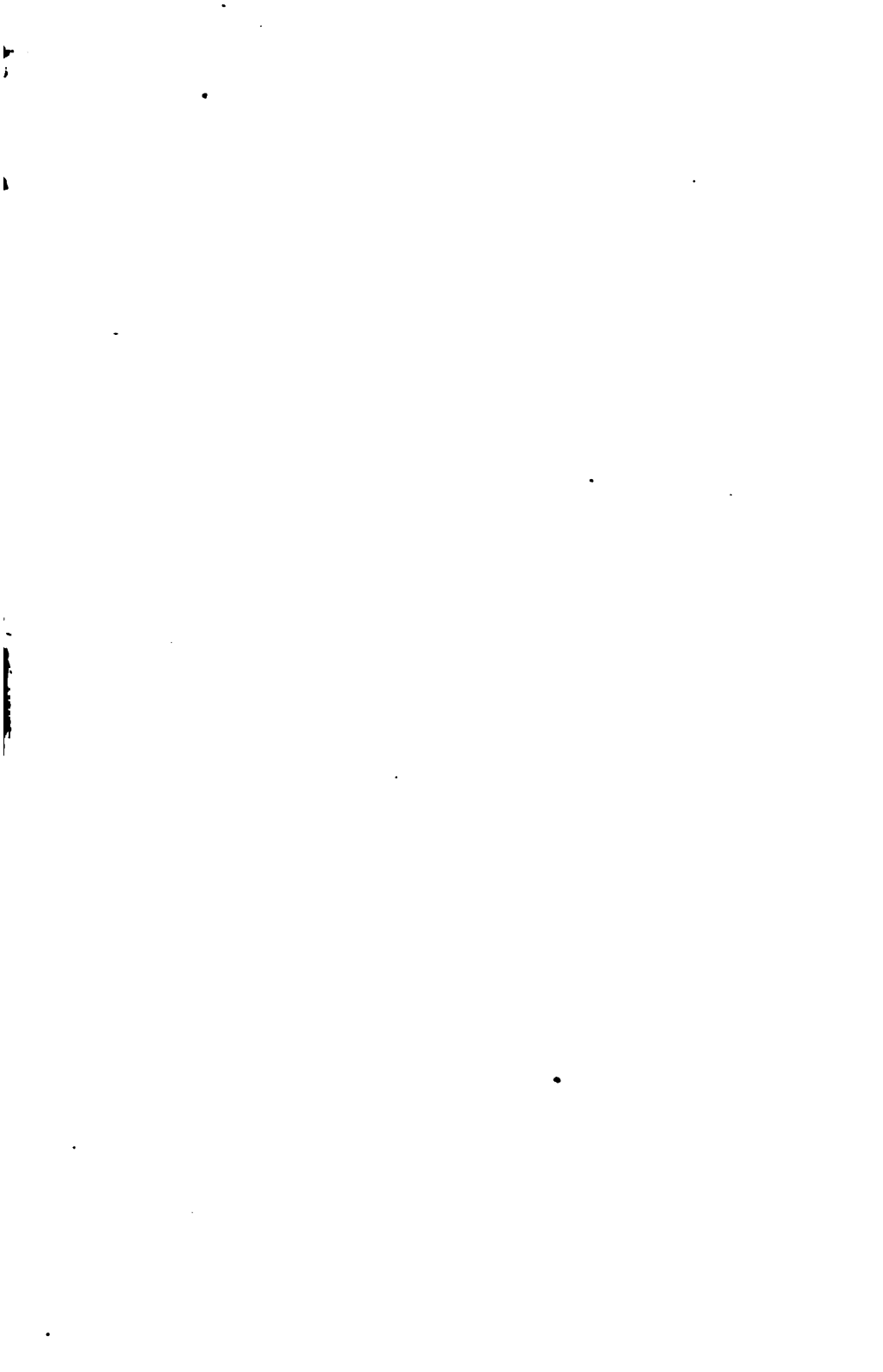
"Moreover," writes Kirchmeyer, "they keep a fast to Mary on a solemn day, which a wheel turned round and a thrown lot indicates. For every sexton hangs up his wheel in church, marked on its circumference with five or six days, and with feasts throughout the whole year sacred to Mary. From each [day] there hangs a long string to catch. If, therefore, a devotee of Mary comes and desires one day [of the six] to be given him by lot, he [the sexton] makes the wheel revolve, and bids the person catch the string as it goes round. Thence he knows the day on which to keep his stated fast, as well as do and accomplish many things in honour of Mary."

Barnabe Googe's metrical translation is the following, which precedes the strictures upon the *Worship of Saintes* :—

" Besides they keepe our Lady's fast at sundrie solemne tymes,
 Instructed by a turning whele, or as the lot assignes.
 For every Sexten hath a wheele, that hangeth for the victoe,
 Marke round about with certaine dayes, unto the Virgin dewe.
 Which holy through ye yere are kept, from whence hangs down a
 thred,
 Of length sufficient to be toucht, and to be handled.
 Now when that any Serbant of our Ladies commeth here,
 And seekes to have some certain day by lotte for to apperre,
 The Sexten turnes the whele about, and bids the stander by,
 To hold the thred whereby he doth the time and season try :
 Wherein he ought to keep his fast, and every other thing,
 That decent is, or longing to our Ladies worshipping."

Book iii. p. 384.

In order that the wheel may freely revolve, it must, of course, be either hung on a hook or held up by the hand at arm's length, the mode adopted when I caused the Long Stratton wheel to be held out for me by a lad of about fifteen years of age, who kept it up quite long enough for my purpose. It has been supposed that the weight was too much to be so held even by a man; and that a curious object found also in the vestry of Long Stratton Church (and represented Plate ii. fig. 3), was a crane or hook, to hold up the wheel when in use. This I do not suppose to be its intended use, from the smallness and slightness of its make, for it weighs only three-and-a-half pounds. A careful examination of this half-arch in iron work has led me to believe that it was designed to hold up vessels or small lamps; as many as nine in number.



NORFOLK AND NORWICH

Archæological Society.

REPORT FOR 1881.

READ MARCH 29TH, 1882.

IN reporting the work of the Society for the past year, the Committee are glad to think that considerable activity and interest have been shown, both in the publication of archæological matter and in the observation of existing remains. The completion of Mr. Walter Rye's valuable and laborious abstracts from the Public Records—the *Fees of Fines for Norfolk*—is a subject of congratulation. These are agreements for the transfer of lands in the county in the reigns of Richard I. and John, affording much information on family history and names of persons and places, and other curious particulars of that early period; and our hearty thanks are due to Mr. Rye for the industry and accurate care displayed in putting us in possession of them.

In accordance with the resolution adopted at the last annual meeting, that a "Boileau Volume" should be published, the Committee have agreed that it should contain illustrations of ancient woodwork in Norfolk, painted or otherwise, and be accompanied by an essay on the subject, and descriptive letterpress. It is hoped that the difficulties found in obtaining suitable material for this purpose may be overcome, and there is now a prospect of the volume being shortly put in hand.

The new edition of the *Emblems of Saints* is now completed, and will be in the hands of Members very shortly. It has been already announced that, besides the additions

made by the present editor, Dr. Jessopp, there will be a valuable Appendix on Sacred Heraldry, with coloured illustrations, contributed by Mr. Blackburn. It will also contain an essay by Mr. W. Marsh on the treatment of the Sibyls in Mediæval Art; a subject which has never before been handled with such intelligent research by any English student. The volume will be issued to all Members who have paid their subscriptions for the years 1880, 1881, 1882. Although the subject-matter of this volume is general, and not exclusively Norfolk, the Committee have felt justified in undertaking the expense of its publication, inasmuch as a strong desire was expressed by the Members that such an edition should be provided at the Society's cost, and its progress has been noted with approval when reported at our General Meetings; and also, inasmuch as it was originally a Norfolk work, due to the knowledge and industry of Dr. Husenbeth, and is a compilation of great use for the study of Norfolk screen-paintings, a large proportion of the examples quoted being in the churches of the county.

The Second Part of Vol. IX. of the Society's Papers was issued last year, and progress has been made with the printing of the next Part.

The first Excursion Meeting of the past year was held in July, among the churches in the neighbourhood of Brandon. These were Hockwold, Wilton, Feltwell, Methwold, and Northwold; and the day afforded much interest and pleasure to the Members who were present. A Paper of great value and varied information was read by the Rev. J. Denny Gedge, at Methwold, who also provided and explained a good collection of antiquities found in the neighbourhood. The kindness and hospitality shown also by the Rev. W. W. Hutt, at Hockwold, and the Rev. W. Cowper Johnson, at Northwold, should be gratefully recorded.

The second General Meeting, held on the 1st December,

in Norwich, possessed the unusual attraction of recently-excavated walls and foundations, showing nearly the whole of the ground plan of the Priory at Carrow, laid open by the liberality of J. J. Colman, Esq., M.P. The Members and Visitors were enabled to examine and study the conventual arrangements there, which were fully explained under the guidance of Mr. Phipson, and were afterwards most hospitably entertained by Mr. Colman. The day's proceedings comprised also visits to the churches and old mansions in King Street, and their history and reminiscences were ably detailed by Dr. Bensly.

In addition to the recovery of the plan of Carrow Priory, it should be here recorded that the foundations of the campanile, or bell-tower, of Norwich Cathedral were partly disclosed last year near the Erpingham Gateway and within the Close. It was an isolated tower or clocher, possibly erected by Bishop Herbert, needing repair in 1300, and still existing in 1579, but then or shortly afterwards ruinous.

The Committee have to deplore the loss of a Member who, when resident in the county, was of great service and had a high reputation as a herald and antiquary, Mr. A. W. Morant, of Leeds. They also greatly regret the decease of another Member, who rendered valuable assistance in former years, the Rev. R. Hart of Catton. Mr. Morant having died in the prime of life, his loss deprives the Society of some contributions which his knowledge and research would have supplied for future use.

The Members of the Committee who retire this year are Colonel Bulwer, Rev. A. C. Copeman, B. W. Harcourt, Esq., R. Blake-Humfrey, Esq., Rev. Dr. Raven, and F. E. Watson, Esq., who are eligible for re-election. In the place of Mr. Morant and the Rev. R. Hart the Committee recommend the names of Hamon le Strange, Esq., Hunstanton, and Edward Arthur Tillet, Esq., of Norwich.

Dr.	<i>The Norfolk and Norwich Antiquological Society.—The Treasurer's Account.</i>	Cr.
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1881. Feb. 24.	To Balance at Messrs. Gurneys :— General account .. 69 12 6 Deposit account .. 343 12 10 <hr/> Subscriptions :— 1 for 1877 .. 0 7 6 6 for 1878 .. 2 5 0 10 for 1879 .. 3 16 0 29 for 1880 .. 10 17 6 213 for 1881 .. 79 17 6 13 for 1882 .. 4 17 6 <hr/> Life Subscription 5 0 0 Sale of Publications 16 11 6 Messrs. Gurneys for Interest :— General account .. 0 13 6 Deposit account .. 6 9 1 <hr/>	£543 19 4
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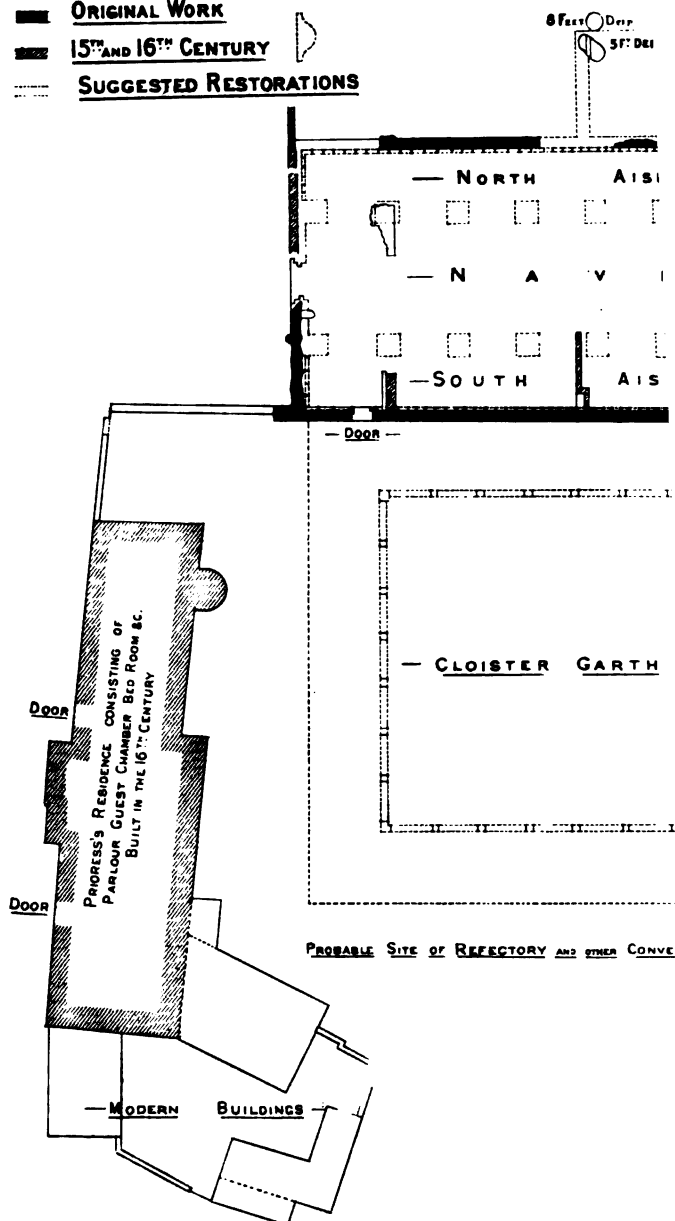
1881.	By A. H. Goose & Co., for Printing (on acct.) 100 0 0 " C. J. Winter, for Drawings 2 18 0 " S. H. Cowell, for Engravings 10 12 6 " C. S. Alger, for ditto 6 6 6 " Searching Records, &c. 1 11 10 " Excursion Expenses 1 7 9 " Advertisements 3 2 0 " Gratuity to Hall Keeper 0 10 0 " Postage and Carriage 6 3 3 " Collector's Salary 12 12 0 " Balance at Messrs. Gurneys :— General account .. 49 13 7 Deposit account .. 350 1 11 <hr/>	£543 19 4
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*Examined and found correct, March 23rd, 1882,
JNO. ORFEUR, Auditor.*

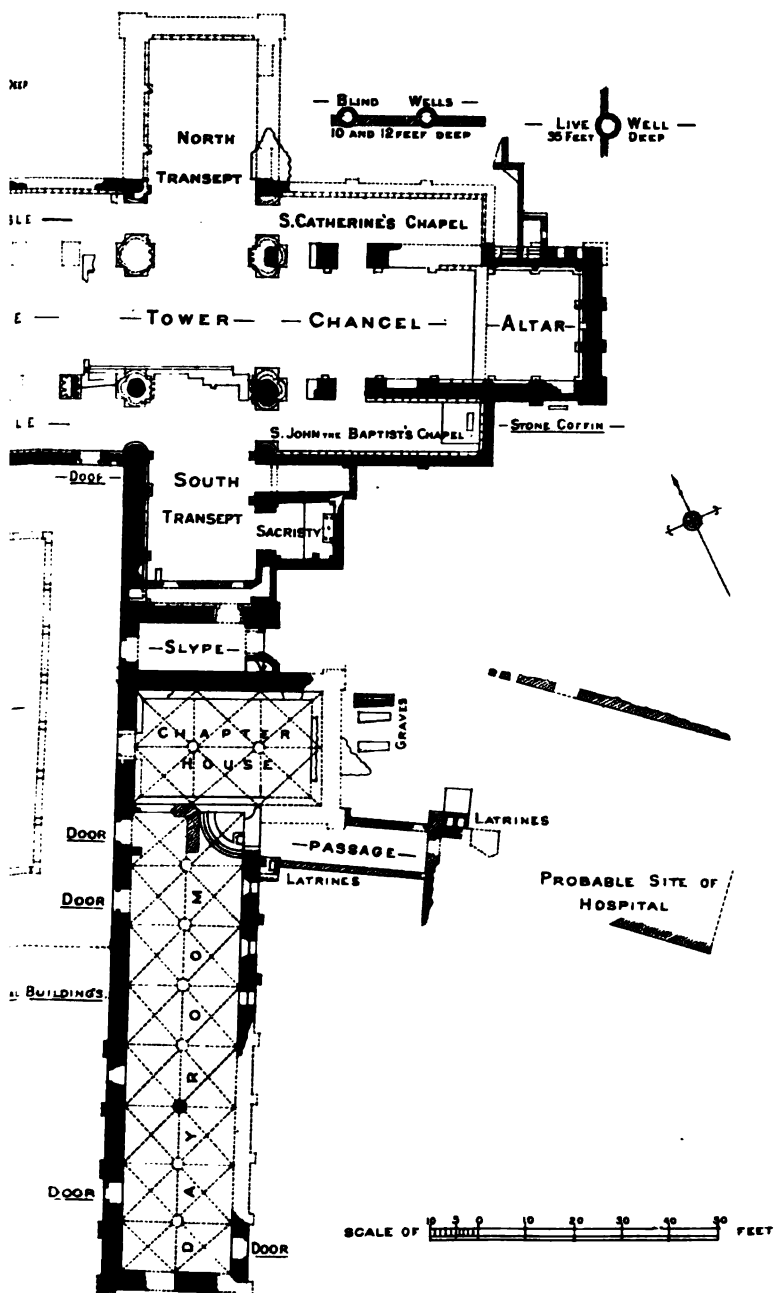


— PLAN OF THE RUINS OF C

ORIGINAL WORK
15TH AND 16TH CENTURY
SUGGESTED RESTORATIONS



CARROW PRIORY, — NORWICH. —





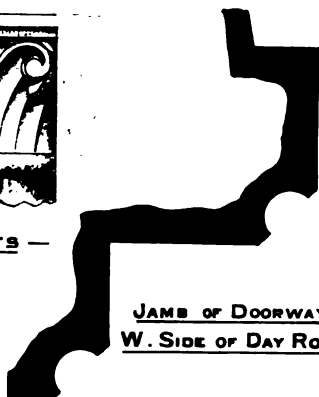


CARROW PRIORY, NORWICH — STONE DETAILS

1/6 FULL SIZE



— CAPS TO ARCADE SHAFTS —



JAMB OF DOORWAY
W. SIDE OF DAY ROOM

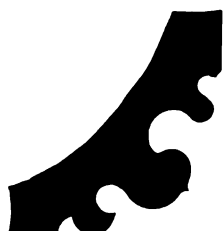
ELEVATION AND SECTION
OF STRING COURSE



— ELEVATION AND SECTION OF STRING COURSE —



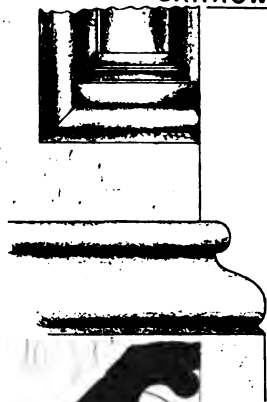
— ARCH MOULDINGS —



— ARCH MOULDINGS —



CARROW PRIORY, NORWICH ———— STONE DETAILS



ARCADE BASE 40
S. AISLE



ARCADE BASE 40



ARCADE BASE 40
S. JOHN'S CHAPEL



BASE IN SACRISTY

ANGLE OF RECESS
IN S. TRANSEPT



BASE TO HALF COLUMN
BY ALTAR STEPS

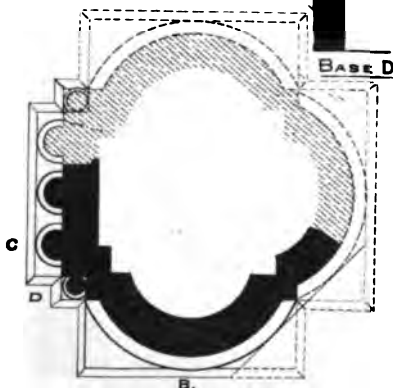


BASE C.

BASE B.

BASE A.

— 1/2 FULL SIZE —



S.E. PIER OF CENTRAL TOWER



PIER BETWEEN NAVE AND S. AISLE

— 1/4" SCALE —

Notes on Carrow Priory, Norwich.

COMMUNICATED BY

R. MAKILWAINE PHIPSON, F.S.A., F.R.I.B.A.

I HAVE no intention of giving anything like an exhaustive account of Carrow Priory, or, as it is better known, Carrow Abbey, although no abbess ever presided over this establishment. A prioress was somewhat inferior in dignity to an abbess, but the distinction between them was small. Anyone desirous of going fully into the history of the priory, its foundation, the names of its successive prioresses and anchoresses, its endowments and grants, its revenues and gifts, the benefices in its patronage, the burials in its precincts, its grants for burning lights before the images of S. James and S. Christopher, will find all fully set out in Dugdale, Blomefield, and other historians. To rake up and reproduce what I can from books is not my object. I simply propose to describe the arrangement of the buildings, so far as they have now been laid open, with their use, age, and date. I say, so far as they have been laid open, because, although Mr. Colman has been most

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liberal in sparing no expense in the work of discovery, yet for several reasons it has been impossible for him to lay bare the entire ruins. Some of the buildings stood in the gardens of an adjacent residence, whilst others, especially the hospital, were situated in a part of the grounds which it would have been inconvenient to dig over. All archaeologists, however, must feel grateful to Mr. Colman for what he has done; and the painstaking manner in which Mr. King, an assistant at the Carrow Works, superintended the laying open of the ruins should not be unacknowledged.

Although I shall not enter into any detailed history of the priory, yet I must briefly state its rise and fall. There was a hospital here in the time of King Stephen, and perhaps earlier, dedicated to S. Mary and S. John. We know that Stephen gave lands and meadows to Seyna and Leftelina, two of the sisters, in 1146; and it is stated that they founded a *new*¹ priory, from which we may presume that there was some institution of the kind here before.

At this time there were nine Benedictine black nuns, who were endowed according to Dugdale with £64. 16s. 6d. per annum, but according to Speed with £84. 12s. 1d. This was exclusive of their lands, which doubtless were valuable, making up a fairly good income, considering the then value of money. There was in 1199 a grant to the nuns of a fair for four days, which doubtless added considerably to their income.

After a long series of ups and downs, which I need not stop to mention, the last prioress but one was Isabella Wygun. During her time the house now occupied by Mr. Tillet, M.P., was undoubtedly erected. There are rebuses of a Y and a gun carved on a beam and some of the oak panelling still extant, clearly indicating its date. The last prioress was Cecily Stafford. She was pensioned at the Dissolution, in the reign of Henry VIII., on £5 per

¹ Blomefield, vol. iv. p. 525.

annum. There were twelve nuns at the Dissolution, and it is said that they kept for many years before a school for the higher class of young ladies. Old Fuller, speaking of such establishments in nunneries says, "they were good Shee Schools wherein the Girles and Maids of the Neighbourhood were taught to read and work; and sometimes a little Latine was taught them therein. Yea, give me Leave to say, if such Feminine Foundations had still continued, provided no Vow were obtruded upon them, haply the weaker Sex might be heightened to a higher Perfection than hitherto hath been attained."

With these brief remarks on the history of the priory I pass on, simply reminding my readers that it may be taken generally that it existed from the middle of the twelfth to the middle of the sixteenth centuries, or about four hundred years.

The ruins that have now been exposed have been lying neglected and unknown for nearly three centuries and a half. Blomefield had no knowledge of their exact position, and says, "it is now so totally demolished, that there are no apparent ruins." Until the excavations were undertaken last year, no one was acquainted with their form and extent. Now that the walls are exposed, being composed as they are of rubble, flint, and half-rotten mortar, I fear they will soon perish by the action of the weather. It therefore behoves us to take particular note of them, so that if we cannot hand down to our successors the ruins as we found them, we may transmit on paper their form and description as accurately as possible.

My old friend and assistant, Mr. W. G. Wallis, has, by the kind permission of Mr. Colman, taken a most accurate plan of all that has been exposed. On this skeleton I have tried to build up, in the best way I can, some of the parts wanting. Here I may mention a fact which I think frequently escapes general notice. It is that our ancestors

were just as prone to pull down, alter, add to, destroy, or rearrange their buildings and churches as we are at the present day, and that the sin of vandalism belongs to no particular generation, but to all.

The ruins at Carrow are clearly of many different dates, from the twelfth to the sixteenth century. This makes it much more difficult to mark out clearly the original plan of the priory—a plan constantly being altered from century to century. The Benedictines, the Franciscans, the Præmonstratensians, the Cistercians, the Carthusians, and other orders, had to a certain limited extent their own particular plan of arrangements, varying slightly to suit the different sites, and their own personal whims and fancies, but generally it was only slightly they varied. This priory belonged to the Benedictine order, and to their conventual arrangements elsewhere we must principally look for a key to these.

You will notice that the chief feature is the cruciform Church, which was dedicated to the Blessed Virgin and S. John the Evangelist. It consisted of a Nave, 101 feet long by 24 ft. 3 in. wide; North and South Aisles of similar length, 11 ft. wide; a central Tower, 32 ft. square on the outside; Choir and Chancel, 62 ft. 6 in. by 23 ft. wide; a South Chapel dedicated to S. John the Baptist, and a North Chapel dedicated to S. Catharine. There are also North and South Transepts extending 42 ft. beyond the tower and 23 ft. wide. But figures convey little. I can give those who know Norwich a better idea by saying that its superficial contents were about one-fifth larger than that of S. Peter's Mancroft. On the east side of the south transept is the Sacristy, standing in the same place it does in most other Benedictine buildings. The north-east and south walls of this, and the whole of the south wall of S. John the Baptist's chapel, have clear indications of having originally been outside walls. The plinths run round, and they are

what is called faced. The cross east wall that now connects the sacristy and chapel together is evidently of fifteenth or sixteenth century date, and is not bonded in with the original work. It was perhaps built to form a Treasury, or closet.

The church would appear to have been begun, as was frequently the case, at the east end. The chancel and choir, tower, and north and south chapels and transepts, were evidently built in the latter part of the twelfth century, or about the time of Seyna and Leftelina, whilst the nave and its aisles are of pure Early English date, or the middle and latter part of the thirteenth century. The eastern part of the chancel was raised two steps, as can still be plainly seen, and the east wall was doubtless filled with three single-light semi-circular-headed windows in deep reveals. The western part of the chancel, the walls of which were highly enriched with stone arcading, several bases of which are still to be seen, contained the choir, and it is likely that it extended under the tower. No remnants of woodwork, however, of any kind have been found, therefore the position of the stalls, pulpitum, roodscreen, &c., can only be guessed at.² The walls of the transepts were also arcaded in stone, and there would appear to have been a rubble stone wall-seat all round them, a common feature at that time.

The base of one pier of the nave, the south-east one, is left very perfect. No foundations of the rest remain. They seldom, especially in the Eastern Counties, went far into the ground, and not unfrequently were actually laid on the crust of the earth. I have shewn on the plan a restored arcading consisting of seven bays, which, after consideration and comparison with other churches of the same date, I think was the original number.

Near the west end of the nave is a portion of a cross

² A few coloured glazed floor tiles are still *in situ*.

wall, which is evidently of recent date—by recent I of course mean fifteenth or sixteenth century work. The south wall of the south aisle and its arcading clearly ran through, and this cross wall is in no way bonded in with the old work; besides, the stone and mortar it is built of is of an entirely different nature and quality from the original walls. Opposite this, on the north side, is a lump of the original wall, which must have been pitched down in this place when the priory was destroyed. It is clearly not *in situ*, runs parallel with nothing, and is not on its bed, but lies sideways at an angle of some thirty degrees. The walls of the north and south aisles were arcaded in stone. This returned round the west end;³ and when we think of the whole church being thus ornamented, some conception of its beauty and richness can be realised. A few of the old caps and bases and shafts have been dug up during the excavations, and the contour of their design is very good. (See plates of details.)

Part of the west wall has been rebuilt. Doubtless originally there was a large west doorway, as I have shewn on the plan. On the south side there were two doorways opening into the cloisters, the jambs of which still remain. This is the usual, I may say almost invariable arrangement, and they were used mostly for processional purposes.

How the roofs of the church were constructed no traces are left; but they had not, I think, stone groining. My reasons for concluding so are, that I cannot find any signs of abutments strong enough to resist such a thrust, and the walls themselves are comparatively thin. In all probability the roofs were of oak and covered with lead. It will be observed upon looking at the cardinal points of the plan that the church is far from lying due east and west, and the orientation of several churches in East Anglia

³ The marks of the shafts and some of the bases still remain.

frequently varies in a similar manner. The nave, it will also be noticed, does not run in an exact line with the chancel, but bears away to the north about 1 ft. 6 in. in its whole length. The conventual buildings are square with the chancel.

Much has been written about the mathematical proportions of old churches, and a good deal which is purely chimerical to my notion has been advanced. However, in this case, if the entire church is divided into ten parts, six-tenths of it is the exact distance from the centre of the tower to the inside of the west wall of the nave, and four-tenths the length from the same point to the inside east wall of the chancel, whilst three-tenths gives the length of the south transept, and it is fair to presume that the north transept was the same. I merely state this for what it is worth. Having no elevations to go by, it is impossible to work out the theory to its full extent. The proportions given I believe bear out to an inch.

On the north side of the chancel was the Chapel of S. Catharine, the north wall of which appears to have been pulled down, and for some reason the building extended further, probably for secular purposes. Under some of these walls were found three circular dry wells, from 10 ft. to 12 ft. deep, and further westward an oval one, all lined with rubble, flint, and bricks. They could not have been water wells, for the live well was discovered close by (see plan), and is 34 ft. deep. This is now nearly dry, shewing that the level of the springs has lowered during the last four hundred years. For what purposes these buildings were used it is difficult to say. Possibly they were occupied by priests who conducted the services of the church. Possibly they formed part of the Anchorhold, for many anchorholds were attached to the actual walls of churches, and some had one window looking into the church itself. However, I am told the tradition is, and I believe it only rests on

tradition, that the anchorhold at Carrow was situated on the sloping ground to the south-west, near the main road. According to Blomefield Lady Julia Lampert was anchoress in 1528. There were several anchorholds for recluses in Norwich. One in the churchyard of S. Julian's, another at S. Etheldred's, a third at S. Peter's Southgate, and others at S. John's Timberhill, All Saints', and S. John's de Sepulchre. Some of the recluses were nuns, but most of them belonged to the priesthood. They withdrew themselves from the world for life, and most interesting accounts of their habits and living will be found in the *Art Journal* of 1861, and in *The Churchman's Magazine* of 1863.

On the south side of the chancel is the Chapel of S. John, the foundations of which are nearly perfect; and this, like the rest of the church, had arcading round the walls, remnants of which still remain. Dugdale and Blomefield, both of whom most carefully chronicle every chapel that was ever known to exist in all churches they write upon, mention these two chapels only as connected with Carrow Priory church. This is good evidence that no others were attached to the building. A Lady Chapel there certainly was not, and the church being dedicated to the Blessed Virgin might easily account for this. Near the end of the south transept a wall was erected somewhere about the fifteenth century. It may have been intended to form one wall of a later straight staircase to the library and dormitories above, but more probably formed an almonry, or closet. The original staircase was circular, and the first two steps of it still remain *in situ* on the south-east side of the slype.

We now come to the domestic and semi-domestic apartments; and first, as is usual, is the slype or passage, out of which the circular staircase just described leads. The Slype formed a communication between the cloisters and outer grounds, and was almost always placed by the

Benedictines between the south transept and the chapter-house.⁴

Southwards of this was the Chapter-house, running, as is invariably the case, east and west. It had undoubtedly a stone-groined ceiling, the central portion of it springing from two circular stone columns. The size of this room can be easily arrived at by working out the compartments of the groining, and it was evidently a chamber 38 ft. 4 in. by 23 ft. It was reached by a west door from the cloister. There was a window to the east, and a stone seat round the walls. Further south was the Day-room or Common-house. This also had a stone-groined ceiling, and had a row of circular columns down the middle, from which the groining sprang. There were seven of these, and a portion of one with its base still remains. They can be easily traced by the corresponding corbels in the walls, from which the other sides of the groining sprung. Over the chapter-house there was doubtless a room which may have been used either for the Scriptorium Library or Muniment-room, or it may have been in continuity with a long Dormitory, which in all likelihood extended completely over the Day-room or Common-house, but as no remains of any sort exist, this is necessarily conjectural. Any of them would be an arrangement more or less in accordance with other monastic establishments. The Scriptorium was however not unfrequently on the ground floor, with the library over it. These rooms, whatever they were used for, had unquestionably open oak roofs.

To the east of these buildings stood the Hospital or Infirmary, the site of which has not been excavated. It probably consisted of a day-room or hall, a dormitory with kitchen and offices, and was reached by a covered passage, the foundations of the walls of which still remain.

⁴ A friend reminds me that it was not so at the Benedictine abbey at Westminster.

Projecting from the sides of this passage were the Gongs or Latrines (*domus necessaria*), and the ground outside was used as a cemetery, in which there still exist three or four graves. One was opened in my presence, and at a depth of about 2 ft. 6 in. human bones were found, which, from their smallness, were, I fancy, those of a female, buried to all appearance without stone or wood coffin. The other graves have not, I believe, been disturbed. On one is a stone slab with a cross, all fairly perfect, and of the latter part of the thirteenth century in character.⁵

On the south side of the church, and west of the common-house were the Cloisters, now part of Mr. Tillett's garden. In the wall at the north-east corner still remains a holy water stoup, and there were doubtless lavatories round, as was usually the case. On the south side of the cloisters were the refectory, kitchen, and offices, with chambers over, and on their west side the *domus conversorum*, for converts, workpeople, and servants, and probably a hall for guests. These were pulled down, and in the early part of the sixteenth century Isabella Wygun erected the house we now see standing. It consists of a handsome parlour panelled in oak, with a fine boldly-moulded oak beam ceiling. Above are bed-rooms, reached by a projecting octagon oak turret staircase, all still in good preservation. Few, if any, relics have been found, except some small pieces of broken jars, and a few late and not uncommon coins.

I repeat, in conclusion, that I have not attempted to set forth a dry list of facts about names, charters, gifts of land, legacies, popes' licenses, and the like. All I have essayed to give is a general description of the buildings at Carrow Priory, and to bring before the imagination their splendour and extent. Let us try to realise this magnificent church,

⁵ The usual place for the Benedictines to bury in was the central part of the Cloisters.

with its spacious cluster of adjacent apartments, their rich arcades and delicately-proportioned mouldings, noble piers and arches, lofty and massive tower, windows entirely filled with richly-painted glass, oak stalls, rood loft, and screens most beautifully carved, highly glazed and ornamental floor tiles, together with altar hangings and other needlework of exquisite design and workmanship, and we shall then be able to form some idea of the elegance and sumptuousness of the Conventual Institutions of the middle ages.

Will of Sir Roger le Strange, Knt.,

[A.D. 1505.—21^o HENRY VII.]

FROM THE ARCHIVES AT HUNSTANTON HALL.

COMMUNICATED BY

HAMON LE STRANGE, ESQ.

THE Pedigree of Le Strange in the *Norfolk Visitation* is very defective in the earlier portion, and requires to be subjected to a thorough revision. To do this at all satisfactorily would be a work of great labour and some expense. It is hardly likely that such a task will be undertaken for some time to come; meanwhile something may be done for the genealogist of the future by laying under contribution the extraordinary collection of family papers now deposited at Hunstanton Hall, admirably calendered by the late Mr. Harrod, and most carefully preserved by their present owner. By printing some of the more important and interesting of these precious documents in the Papers of the Norfolk Archæological Society, much light will be thrown upon many obscure matters in the family history of East Anglia, and it is believed that the following will prove a valuable contribution to the original authorities for our County History.

The testator was son and heir of Sir Henry le Strange,

Knt., of Hunstanton, by Katherine, daughter of Robert Drury, of Hawstead, co. Suffolk, Esq. He succeeded his father at Hunstanton in 1485: he married Amy,¹ daughter of Sir Henry Heydon, of Baconsthorp, Knt., and by her had an only son John, mentioned in the following Will (which corrects the mistake made by Blomefield, and copied by others, that he died s. p.) He is said to have been Esquire of the Body to Henry VII., and High Sheriff of Norfolk in 1495. His brother Robert eventually succeeded to the estate.

It will be obvious to all who peruse this Will that it suggests far too many questions to be discussed to any purpose within the limits allowed in our *Original Papers*. It has therefore been thought best to print it for students and antiquaries without note or comment.—A. J.

IN the name of god Amen. I Roger le Straunge knyghte beyng of hole mynde and goode memorye the vij daye of Octobre in the yereg of the reyn of Kyng Herry the vijth xxjst yere and in the yere of our lorde M v^e and ffyve make and ordeyn this myn testament and last Wyll in fforme ffoloweyng ffyrst I bequeth my Sowle to all myghty god our lady Seynt Mary and all the holy company of heyn my body to be buried in the Chaunsell of Hunstanton to which hey aulter for my tythes at any tymes forgoton I bequeth xx^s. Item I Wyll that all my dettys be payd. Also I bequeth to the same Chirch x*li*. for a vestment of Crymsyn Velvet to be paid Withyn too yeres after myn decease. Also I bequeth to the said Chyrch of Hunstanton the owte syde of myne gowne of crymsyn veluet for a Cope. And I Wyll that my executours bye and offeren [for] the same to the value of x m^{re} or x*li*. withyn a yere after. And that my armys and my Wyffes be imbroderyd in the same. Also I bequeth to the repaçon of the Chapel of

¹ See *infra* at p. 233.

Seynt Edmond in Hunstanton x m^{rs} to be payd Withyn too yeres aft^r my decesse so that my armys and my wyffes may be sette in the Wyndows of the said Chapell. Also I wyll that ~~xxs~~^h. of the reuenys and p^ytyt^tg of my purchasyd londys in Holme be yerely payd to the pysshe clerk of Hunstanton for the tyme beyng duryng the tyme of iiij^r yeres and xix. He beyng a good and dyscrete pson and able in Counyng [?] to see the ^huice of god the^r mayntenyd. Also I Wyll that the^r be dysposyd by myn executours for the Weith of myn sowle after the^r dyscrescion upon my beryell daye in dedys most necessary for my sowle. And also to be dysposyd Withyn Sevyen dayes next after myn decesse in the Townes of the Hundred of Smethedon as hereafter dothe appere ffyrst Amonge my pore ten^{nt}g of Hunstanton v m^{rc} in Holme xls. in Hechm xxs. in Snytys-ham xxvjs. viiij^d. in Dokkyng xiijs. iiij^d. in the Towne of Anme^r in the hundred of ffrebrydge xxs. in greate Ryngstede xiijs. iiij^d. in lytell Ryngstede vjs. viij^d. in greate Byrcham xiijs. iiij^d. Also I Wyll that myn executours do cause a tombe to be made ouer me. Whereupon I Wyll they shall bestowe xxvj^h. xiijs. iiij^d. to be made Withyn a twelmonyth or ij yeres next after my decesse. Also I bequeth to the chyrche of Holme a Cope p^{ce} Cs. to be imbroderyd With my armys and my Wyffys. Also I bequeth to the Chyrche of greate Ryngstede a Cope p^{ce} liijs. iiij^d. Also I bequeth to the Chyrche of Anmer a cope p^{ce} liijs. iiij^d. Also I bequeth to the Chyrche of greate Brytchm a cope of Whyte p^{ce} liijs. iiij^d. Also I wyll that the^r be disposid amonge the pore pepyl Withyn the Towne of Sedgeforth withyn vij dayes next after my decesse xxs. Also I bequeth to the Chyrch of Pakyngham in the Countie of Suff. a Cope p^{ce} liijs. iiij^d. Also I bequeth to the towne of ffelsham a cope of white damaske or Saten inbroderid w^t my armys and my Wyffys p^{ce} x m^{rs}. Also I Wyll that the^r be disposid wⁱⁿ the said towne of ffelsham in Suff.

withyn vij dayes after my deceasse amonge poore people
 xxs. Also I bequeth to the repaçon of the Chirche Roffe
 of Thorpp in Suff. and for Wyndowes to be made withyn
 the same Chyrche of Thorpp xli. to be paid in iiij yeres and
 I wyll haue my armes and my Wyffys in the wyndowes.
 Also I bequeth to the same Chyrch of Thorpp a cope of
 blak veluet to be made of my blak gowne of veluet and
 more to be boughte if it so nede for the same to be im-
 broderid w^t my armes and my Wyffys and myn executours
 to bye and offeren for the same p^{ce} of x m^{rs}. Also I Wyll
 that there be dysposed among the pore pepyll the^r withyn
 vj dayes nex aft^r my deceasse xls. Wheroff I Wyll that
 Richard Hoby haue xiijs. iiijd. Also I wyff that Wiffm
 Sutton Gentilman haue payd to hym by myn executours
 xli. att such tymes as myn executours shall thynk con-
 uenyent of good and lawfull money, so that he bege not ne
 troblyth myn heyres ne executours. And if he doo to be
 excludyd of the said payment of xli. And so that he will
 be redye to doo that yt shalbe thowte by myn executours
 and heyres for the assuertye of suche londys as I bowte
 of hym. Also I bequeth to the repacon of the Chyrche of
 Tychewell vjs. viijd. I^{fm} to the repaçon of the Chyrche of
 ffrynge vjs. viijd. Also I wyll that one Pye and hys Wyffe
 late of Dokkyng have xls. in redy money wⁱⁿ one yere
 after my dethe soo that I haue myn evydence and estate.
 Also I wyll that a woman of Brankaster that John Hawe
 knowith well or her executours haue liijs. iiijd. in redy
 money to be disposid for her sowle if she be dede wⁱⁿ a
 yere after my deceasse. Also that the Wyff sumtyme of
 John Kempe in Hunstanton haue xls. in redy mony w^t that
 mony Whiche she owith me. Also I wyll that euy of myn
 yomen s^unts att^r this day beyng in my lyvery haue yche
 of them a blak gowne w^t Thomas Moore [?] and Bryggs
 p^{ce} of euy gowne cloths vs. or vjs. wⁱⁿ my therty day.
 Item Robt. Bocher a blak gowne and I^{fm} to Thomas Dey

xs. Also I wyll that the vycar of Hunstanton the pson of Thorp in Suff. and Thomas late my prest and S^r Jamys Howys haue iche of them a blak gowne p^{ce} of e^{ly} gown cloth xiiis. iiij^d. and e^{ly} of myn executours for ij ſu^{nt} have iche of them a gowne p^{ce} of e^{ly} gowne cloth vs. or vjs. as is before rehersed excepte Jaffrey Bloye to haue for one ſu^{nt}. Also I wyll that all other howshold ſu^{nts} wⁱⁿ my hows haue iche of them a gowne p^{ce} of e^{ly} gowne clothe iiij^s. Also I wyll that my Wyves Gentilwomen and the Norys and Margaret Wynter haue iche of them a gowne clothe p^{ce} of e^{ly} gowne cloth xiijs. iiij^d. Also I bequeth to my Wyfys Gentilwomen xls. within ij yeres aft^r my deceasse and the Norys xxs. in money to be paid withyn a yere next aft^r my deceasse. And I bequeth to Margaret Wynter vii. to be paid withyn vij yeres next after my deceasse if she will be rewlid by my Wyffe. Also I bequeth to Wiffm Bailly my ſu^{nt} xls. in money by yere during his lyff goyng owte of my p^{ch}asid londes in Ryngstede and Holme and my tawney medly gowne ffurred w^h whight. Also I bequeth to Henry Asheton my ſu^{nt} my blacke curten nagge and xxs in money. Ifm to John Power xs. and a blak gowne clothe. Also I bequeth to Wiffm Knytelee and Thomas ffenne iche of them a blak gowne. Also I bequethe to Robt. and Richard ther Wagys and e^{ly} of hys too ſu^{nts} a blak gowne. [There seems to be an omission of a clause referring to his brother Robert.] And to my neveue Thomas hys son a blak gowne. And to my brother John le Straunge my furre of foyneez to my brother John Heydon the choyse of my swordys to my brother Paston my nexte sworde to my brother Willm. Heydon a blacke gowne clothe p^{ce} xxs. the residue of myn arraye I wyll my son John le Straunge haue it as he shall nede. Also I bequeth to my Wyff as many lynkys of my chene of goolde as wyll amounte to the some of xli. Also I bequeth her in redy money xli. if

it may be borne xx*li*. to be paid withyn a monyth next after my deceasse soo that she suffryth myn executours to receyue and take the revenues and arreragis as be due att the tyme of my deceasse of such londes as be assigned to her in Joyntour and the other xx*li*. if it may be borne wⁱⁿ a yere next aft^r my deceasse. Also I bequeth my Wyff all her apparell and all suche plate as was gevyn her by her father. Also I gyve to her a bason w^t an Euyr of Siluer a gylt bowle w^t the couer ij of my beste saltes w^t the couers a Goblett pcell gylt w^t the couer a dosen Sponys w^t lyons all the gylte Spones. And the residue of myn plate not bequethed I wyll that it be solde to the pformance of thys my testament if my testament may not be convenyently pformed withoute the plate. And if it may be then I wyll it remayne to John my son. Also I wyll that my Wyff haue halff the Stuffe of howsholde and I wyll that my son John haue the other halff and the said John my son to be in the kepyng of my Wyff if she levith soole or be maryed. And if she dye then to be in the kepyng of myn brother John le Straunge. And if he dye than to be in the kepyng of my Brother John Heydon. And if the same John Heydon dye than to be in the kepyng of my cosyn Roger Townneshend ontyll my said son be of full age so that he may be att large to chose hys owen in maryage. And if my sone dye er he come of full age than the said halff stuffe to hym assigned to be solde and to be dysposid for the Weth of my sowle and my wyves and all our ffrendys in such townes as I have londes in. Ifm I wyll that my son John haue all my harnes w^t all thynges therto belongyng. And if the said John dye wⁱⁿ the said yeres than I wyll that my neuue Thomas haue all my said harnes w^t my cote of blak veluett. Ifm I wyll that my howse be founde a quarter of a yere nexte after my deceasse att my costs. Ifm to Busshell my best doblet of blak saten and my dagar. Ifm to Martyn xls. Item to John Lyft xs. and a

mylche cowe. Iſm to Thom^s my bruer a quarter of malte and a mylche cowe. Iſm to Jñ Byan a mylche cowe to iche of my women 3u^{nts} iijs. iiij^d. Iſm to Margaret Baker a blak gowne and xxs. and on to her doughter Elizabeth xxs. Also to Nycolas Taylour my gowne furred w^t foxe and vjs. viij^d. Iſm to ij prestys yeres if it may be borne to synge in Hunstanton Church for my sowle my fader and my moder sowles and Sir Harry Heydon sowle and all cristen sowles eſy yere ix m^{rcs} to seye placebo and dyryge dayly excepte double feste. Iſm to the austen ffryers at Lynn v m^{rc} and to eſy of the order of ffryers wⁱⁿ the saide towñ xxs. Iſm to eſy of the ffryers of Thetford xxs. to the ffryers of Burnhñ xxs. Iſm to the ffryers of Walsynghñ xxs. Iſm to the Nonnys at Thetford xxs. to the ffryers att Babwell² xxs. Iſm I wyll that myn hangyng of Pulhñ work for the gret Chambyr in the tower the parlour and the chambyr ou^r that shall remayne wⁱⁿ the same maner of Hunstanton as long as they may endure. Iſm that wher I haue cleymed a title and inſesse of and in one Roke otherwyse callyd Wyk of London to be belongyng as my bondeman to my maner of Rusteynes in Snetysim I wyll that if it can be thowte or detmyned that I haue wrongid hym in any behalff that than imedyatly after suche knowledge hadde that he be restoryd to alle thyng^l which I have taken of hym and of all other. Iſm I wyll that all the Coten and frise by me boughte at Bartylmewe fayre and Sterbrydge fayre shall be occupyed abowte pore folkes and other att my beryall daye and that shalbe pcell of the lxli. assigned to be expended att my said beryeng day. Iſm I wyll that my Syster Heydon mes^{ses} Townneshend my Syst^r Anne Straunge my Syst^r Margaret Straunge and my Syster Gurnay iche of them haue a blacke gowne. Iſm I

² Near Bury St. Edmund's. The Franciscans were removed there from Bury in 1263.

wyll haue an hobyte [*obit*] kepte for me and my ffrendys yerly in Hunstanton Chyrche att suche daye as it shall happyn me to depte to goddys mcy and att that daye I wyll that myn executours spende in almes to pore folkes among my pore ſu^{nts} in Hunstanton and to prestys and clerkys Cs. yerly att that daye and soo to endure by xx yer after my deceasse. Ifm I bequeth to Amye le Straunge my Wyff x quarters whete xx quarters Rye and mestlyn xl quarters of malt. Also I wyll that myn Wyff haue v wethers ij plowars w^t iiij heifez and a cart w^t all that bylongith therto a grey horse and ij of my best hors in ony place wher that they bee. Ifm I wyll that suche londes as I haue in tylltyh be tyllled and sowne to myn use for this yere and my wyff to be answered of the ferme of as moche londē as be so occupied. Also I bequeth to my Wyff vj mylche kyn and a bool. The residue of my goodys not bequethed I put in the disposi^{cion} of myn executours.

In the name of god Amen. I the sayd Roger make myn testament of myn maners londes and Ten^{ts} wⁱⁿ the Counties of Norff and Southfolk in forme folowyng the daye and yere abovesaid. ffyrst I wyll that all my feoffes of and in all the said maners londs and Ten^{ts} ther appurten^{nt} which were my ffaders Henry le Straunge or any other to hys use wⁱⁿ the Counties of Norff and Suff. And also of and in all myn londes maners and ten^{ts} whiche I have purchased excepte the maner of Mustrell in Hunstanton and excepte the maners of Hunstanton Anmer and Pakenh^m and the londys to the said maners pteynyng or belongyng whiche be lymtyed to the Joyntour of my wyff Amie le Straunge for tme of her lyf stande and be feoffed to the use of myn executours duryng the tme of xx yeres next aft^r my deceasse soo that myn said executours maye pceyve and receyve the issue and pfights of the said maners londē and ten^{ts} excepte before excepted duryng the saide tme therwithall to peform

my last wyff and testament. And aft^r the said yeres fully def^ynynd I wyff that my sayd feoffies stande and be feoffies to the use and behove of John myn son and of his heires of his body begotyn. And for defawte of suche issues the remaynder of all suche maners and londes w^t ther appurtennts whyche wer my ffaders or ony other to hys use imedyatly after the deceasse of the said John onto my brother Robt. le Straunge and to the heires of his body begotyn and for defawte of suche issue the remaynder to my brother John and onto his heyres of hys body begotyn and for defaute of suche issue the remaynder to myn brother Robt. and to his heyres for ever. And as to all maners lond^e and Ten^t by me purchasid excepte the londys late Parsons in Snetys^ham and my londys purchasid in Hunstanton Holme Dockyng and Ryngsted I wyll that if my said son John dye withoute issue of his bodye that all the sayd purchasid londys excepte beforne excepted remayne to my brother Robt. and to his heyres male upon Condi^{ti}on that iff the said Robt. or his heyres paye vij^{xx} *li.* sterlyng in forme folowyng that is to seye to the Chyrche of Hunstanton for repa^{ci}ons and ornaments ther to be bowte xl *li.* and onto the preste in Gunvell halle in Cantebridge for his exhibi^{ti}on there to lerne and synge for me and for my frendys xl *li.* so that the said prest may synge for me and for my frendys vj yeres. I^{te}m to the Austen ffryers of Lynn x *li.* also to eyther of the ffryers of Lynn v *li.* also the ffryers of Burnh^{am} and Walsyngh^{am} v *li.* to eyther of them. I^{te}m to eyther of the ffryers of Thetford v *li.* Also to the Nonnys v *li.* Also to the Churchys att lytell Massyngham Holme Snetys^ham bothe Ryngsted^e Dokkyng Sedgeford Thornham Haham [?] Byrcham for the repa^{ci}on of the said Chyrcches to eyther of them xxs. all thys money to be payd wⁱn ij yeres next after the said remaynder so fallen. And if the said Robt. dye withoute issue male or refuse the said p^{er}ment than I wyll that all the said londys and teⁿts remayne to my brother John le Straunge and to his

heyres for ever with suche payments and condiçõs as is
 aforesaid. And if the said John my brother refuse or paye
 not the said some than I wyll that they remayne to my uncle
 Sr Robt. Drurye and to his heyres for ever so that he paye
 the some aforesaid in man^r and forme as is aforesaid. And
 o^u that xxvj*li*. xiijs. iiij*d*. to be paid to a prest for to synge
 for me and my frendys before our lady att Walsyngh^m
 during the tyme of iiij yer^s. And if the said Robt. p^rforme
 not the said condiçõs than I wyll that all the sayd maners
 londys and tent^e excepte before excepted be solde by the
 master of Gunvell halle and the puynceyall [provincial] of the
 austeng ffryers for the tyme beyng and the money thereof
 comyng to be paid as it is abousaid and the o^uplus to be orderyd
 by ther dyscession. And as to the londes in the townes afore-
 said excepte the maner of Mustrell and Peerson aforesaid
 I will that they be solde by myn executours and the money
 thereof comyng to goo to the p^rformance of my Wyll. And
 as to the londys late Persons I wyll that if my son John dye
 w^oute issue of hys bodye and aft^r the yer^s det^rmynd that
 they remayne to my brother John and to his heyres males
 upon suche condiçõ that the said John paye lx*li*. wⁱn iij
 yer^s next after the remaynd so fallen as it shalbe thowte
 by myn executours. And if the said John dye w^out issue
 male or refuse than that to remayne to my brother Robt. in
 lyke man^r. And if the said Robt. dye w^out issue male or
 refuse than that to remayne to Sr Robt. Southwell and his
 heires so that he paye the said some and o^u that xx*li*. as it
 shalbe thought by myn executours. And as to the mylle
 w^t the londes thereto bylongyng and my p^rchased lond^e in
 Hecham I wyll that they be solde by myn executours and
 the money thereof to goo to the execuçõ of my Wyll. And
 as to all the man^r lond^e and tent^s whiche be to my Wyff in
 jountour assigned w^t the maner of Mustrell before excepted
 I wyll that my feoffies seasid of and in the p^rmisses that they
 suffre my Wyff for to receyve the issues of the said maners

londē and ten̄s duryng her lyff and if my seid Wyf dye wⁱⁿ the space of xix yere next aft^r my deceasse than I wyll myn executours take the pfit^e of the p̄mises as many yeres after my said Wyff^e decease tyll xix yere be fully fynnyshid next after my deceasse. And after her deceasse and the said xix yeres fynnyshid I wyll that the said maners remayne to John and to the heyres of his body begoten and for defawte of such issue I wyll that all thes maners londys and ten̄s whiche were my said remayne immediatly after the deceasse of my said son ou^{er} to my brother Robt. and on to his heires of his bodye begoten and for defawte of suche issue the remaynder to my brother John le Straunge and on to the heires of his body begoten and for defawte of suche issue the remaynder of all the said maners londys and ten̄s whiche were not by . . . purchasid to ffrauncis Bernard and to the Sudeburies [?] and on to ther heyres for ever. And [as] to the said maners londē and ten̄s p̄chasid by my said father I wyll that they remayne to my brother Robt. and his heires for eū if my said brother John dye w^{out} issue. And as to the maner of Mustrell aforesaid I wyll that if my said son issue of his body and after the deceasse of my said wyff I wyll that the said maner w^{it} the appurten^{nts} remayne to my brother Robt. le Straunge and to his heyres males of his body begotyn upon this condiçōn that if the said Robt. or hys heyres paye viij^{xx}li. stlyng in forme folowyng first to the felawshyp of Penbrokhal hall xl^{li}. and xl^{li}. to the felawshyp of Gunvyle halle and to Sent Edmondē Chapell for repaçōns and ornaments of the said Chapell xl^{li}. and xl^{li}. to Hunstanton Chyrche so that certen p^{re}you^r w^{it} alms be as myn executours yerly shall advyse all this money to be paid wⁱⁿ vj yeres next aft^r the remaynder soo fallen and if the said Robt. dye w^{out} issue male than I wyll that the said maner remayne onto my brother John and to his heyres males of his body begotyn in lyke maⁿ and condiçōn as is abovesaid and if my said brother John die w^{out} issue male

and not paye the said some in forme aforesaid that than the sayd maner shall remayne to my brother John Heydon and to his heires for ever so that the said John Heydon pay the said some in maner and forme aforesaid and ou^r that xx*li*. to be paid to x houses of lazermanⁿ to ich^e of them xls. and the howses w^hin ffrebrydge Smethdon Galowe and Brothercrosse to have the p^rferment. And if the said John Heydon dye w^hout issue or refuse or p^rforme not the said condi^con than I wyll that the said manor w^h the appurtenⁿts be solde by the master of Penbroke hall and Gunvyle hall and the money therof receyved to be p^rformed as is abovesaid and the residue to be dysposid by ther dyscrecion. Provided always that if my and the p^rfyts of myn londys and ten^ts whiche shalbe receyved wyll not p^rforme my Wyll than I Wyll that the lond^e late Peersons and my londes and ten^ts in Hech^m by me purchasid be solde by myn executours for the performans of my Wyll notwithstanding the devyse abovesaid p^rvided alway that if my said Wyff and my said son dye w^hout issue w^hin thes yeres abousaid than I wyll that thos lond^e whiche wer my fathers remayne inmedyaty aft^r the deceasse of them bothe as it is [in] my said Wyll specyfyed. And the lond^e of me p^rchasid I wyll that myn executours take the issues and p^rfight^e in maner and forme as is afore rehersid duryng the said yeres and that they whiche shall take avauntage by thys my Wyll pay non money onto swiche tyme as they or any of them take issues and p^rfts of the said manⁿs lond^e and ten^ts to them or any of them w^hin this my last Wyll namyd. And p^rvided alway that my said feoffies of my said manⁿs lond^e and ten^ts aforesaid that if ony w^hin this my last Wyll specyfyed or ony other whiche shalle take avauntage by thys my last Wyll requyre the said feoffies to make astate accordyng to thys my last Wyll than I Wyll that they make astate accordyng to owth of this my Wyll and furthermore if they take non astate I wyll that the said feoffies suffre all thos whiche shall anauntage by

thys Wyll of any of the said londes that they suffre them or
 any of them accordyng to thys testament to take the Issues
 and pfyts as is aforespecyfyed and puided alway that if all
 my said feoffies dye excepte ij of them I wyll that my
 said feoffies make astate to such sufficient psons accordyng to
 the trewe intent of this my last Wyll and yff ony suche
 shall take auantage by thys Wyll paye not the somes afore-
 said than I wyll that they take none auantage by thys my
 Wyll puyded alwaye that if my Brother Robt. or his heyres
 intupte or vexe or trobyll myn said Wyff for her joyntour or
 ony pte thereof than I wyll that he lose the auantage of
 this my bequest and Wyll. And furthermore where as I
 have bequest to the ffryers and places in Cambrydge wⁱⁿ
 and owte the uny^usiti ther as is above wreten I wyll that
 for the said money to them bequethid they doo suche dyvyne
 s^uysse as it shalbe thowte by myn executours for the sowles
 of me myn Wyff my ffather and my moder S^r Herry Heydon
 and all Cristen sowles and whereas I have geuyn on to my
 son John all my maners londys and ten^ts as is aforesaid I
 wyll that he aft^r he take the pfyts of hys hooft londys aft^r
 his moders deceasse yerely that he geve and deliue xls. to be
 dysposid by his dyscrescion amonge the psoners of Lynn and
 Norwiche duryng his lyff. And furthermore aft^r my dettys
 and legattys payd and pformyd I wyll all myn goode dettys
 issues and pfyts of my lond^e man^{er}s and ten^ts w^{it} the app^u-
 ten^{ants} aforesaid taken and receyved by myn executours
 or to be taken by them I wyll that they purchase a lycense
 of the Kyngs grace to purchase xl m^ars by yere and that the
 said executours purchase the said xl m^ars to fond j ij iiij or
 iiij prests to synge wⁱⁿ the Chirche of Hunstanton and the^r
 by a convenyent grounde purchasid upon whiche howsyng
 may conuenyently be byldid for the said prest^e att my cost^e
 and if the said lycens may not be opteynid than I wyll myn
 executours fynde aft^r the rate aforesaid prest^e or scolers
 as they thynke by ther discession w^{it} the pfts of my

man's lond^e and tent's aforesaid. And if my goodys and dettys wyll not pforme the said article than I wyll that my said goodes and the pfts so taken and remayning be dysposid by the dyscrecion of myn executours Whom I make my broder John Heydon my Cosyn Tonsend my brother John le Str^aunge and Jaffrey Bloye myn executours and myn uncle S^r Robt. Drury and my Cosyn S^r Robt. Southwell myn Supuysours of this my Wyll and for ther labowre I bequeth to euy of them Cs. w^t ther cost^e whiche they shall spende for me in that behalff. Also I wyll that if ther be ony dowte in ony article or clause in this myn p^rsent testament and last Wyll that than the same dowte be in^tpetrat reformyd opynynd and . . . by my brether John le Str^aunge John Heydon and Roger Towneshend and furthermore I geve full power on to my sayd Brother John le Str^aunge John Heydon and Roger Towneshend to increse and mynysshe euy thyng towchyng this myn Wyll as they shall thynke best by thei dyscrecions.

[Probate annexed, and dated 11th February, 150⁸.]

FURTHER EXTRACTS FROM PAPERS
IN THE CHURCH CHEST AT WYMONDHAM.

Wymondham Gilds.

COMMUNICATED BY

G. A. CARTHEW, ESQ., F.S.A., M.A.I., &c.

WE are told by Blomefield that at the Dissolution there were divers gilds, well endowed with lands and tenements, held in the church of Wymondham, and he enumerates ten, viz., those of

(1) The HOLY TRINITY, which gild had a gildhall at Spooner Row, and is sometimes called *Spooner Rowe Gild*.

(2) ST. PETER of Sutton, to which Aveline Bird gave eight acres of land.

(3) Of OUR LADY at her altar in her chapel here, which gild kept a light before her image in her chapel, called *our Lady's light*.

(4) The Gild of ST. MARGARET, kept at her altar in her chapel.

(5) The Gild of ST. ANDREW at his altar in his chapel, where there was a new rood-loft erected in 1497.

(6) Watlefield Gild, or Brotherhood of ST. THOMAS, kept at his altar in this church, and sometimes in his chapel in the middle of the town, and is sometimes called Middleton Gild.

(7) The Gild of HOLY CROSS.

(8) Of ST. JOHN BAPTIST.

(9) Of ST. GEORGE.

(10) Of ALL SAINTS.

All which gilds (he says) supported lights here in honour of their patron saints. Besides which, there were the *rood-loft light* and the *light of Jesus*.

Books containing accounts and other information respecting four of these gilds are still preserved in the church chest of this parish, viz., of the HOLY TRINITY; OUR LADY'S LIGHT; ST. JOHN BAPTIST; and ALL SAINTS. And there is, besides these, a fifth book relating to the affairs of an eleventh gild, not named by Blomefield, that of the NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN, quite distinct from the Gild of our Lady's Light.

The extracts which I have made from these books are so numerous, and do of themselves throw so much light on the constitution and economy of these fraternities, that I have very few observations of my own to make.

These gilds are to be distinguished from the merchant gilds and trades gilds of large towns, some of which have found historians. They are in fact nothing but the originals of the burial clubs which exist in every parish amongst us, and, as such, serve to exemplify the social habits of our ancestors of the middle and humbler class.

It has been said that at a very early period in the history of this country "people clubbed together to be merry while alive and to be buried when dead." They do so now; and we find in the early part of the sixteenth century, the period over which the entries in these books extend, objects and practices similar to those of our village clubs. We see

the members assembling together for feasting and drinking, and we see them attending the funerals of deceased brethren. It has always been an object of desire to provide for the honourable burial of the dead; but what men at that time considered a duty of the highest importance was to obtain the prayers of the Church for the souls of the dead. It is the opinion of the present day that in this they were superstitious and mistaken, but we must allow that their purpose was laudable. It would be well if the modern clubs were connected with the Church and under the influence of Church principles. The merry-makings are kept up still, and in some few instances the parish clergyman is a member of the club, and the proceedings are initiated by divine service in the church, but in medieval times the very "drinkings" appear to have partaken of a charitable, if not a religious, character. Because these gilds had houses and lands, small in value as they were, they were swept away by the rapacious men who governed in the name of Edward VI., under the plea of "superstitious usages," but the feeling which dictated the formation of brotherhoods never died out, and it is to be hoped never will.

The communities now under notice were composed of sisters as well as brothers, the former being generally wives and widows of brethren. Each gild had its own ordinances or bye-laws, and the number of members varied considerably, the Gild of the Nativity of the Virgin enumerating at one time one hundred and eleven members, while that of St. John had but thirty-six. I propose to trace the history of each gild from its own records, but there were some features which all possessed in common. Each gild was presided over by an alderman, elected annually, whose duty appears to have been to receive the income, pay the outgoings, and keep the accounts; and the books before me contain the compotus of the alderman for every successive year. This important post was usually filled by an eccle-

siastic, or some leading man of the town. The Abbat of Wymondham was in 1500 alderman of the Gild of St. John. The vicar for the time being frequently held the office. The same person was generally re-elected for several successive years.

Each member in turn was bound to bear the charge of providing the annual feast, which was usually held on the Sunday nearest the festival of their patron saint, and then the officers for the following year were chosen. The elective body was composed of a certain number of brethren, usually twelve, termed *the Election, Eleccio*, by whom the office bearers were appointed. After the alderman, two members were chosen, whose duties are pretty well indicated by their appellations of *fest makers, provisores* or *purviores convivii*, a place which in course of time came to be considered onerous, and compositions were made to be relieved from it, or fines paid for refusal. Two others were chosen for *gatherers of alms, colyors, collectores elemosinarum*.

The inferior officers were a beadle, *preco*; a banner bearer, *rerillator*; and sometimes a steward, *senescallus*; and a butler, *pincerna*, and others.

Each gild had its own hall, where their feasts and other meetings were held, or purchased one as soon as the state of the funds permitted; but we must not raise our imagination to a sumptuous edifice, suggested by the idea of a *hall*, or the example of the gildhall of one of the wealthy merchant companies. These halls were but humble tenements, built, as we learn from the accounts of their repairs, of stud and clay, and covered with thatch, and when not required for the use of the fraternity, appear to have been let for other purposes. How much to be preferred to the modern custom of meeting at the public-house!

Their worldly possessions usually comprised, as has been before remarked, some small real estate, acquired by gift or purchase. Their chattels or personal estate consisted of the

furniture and utensils of their halls, of which I am enabled in some instances to give the inventories, and of a common purse or stock of money, derived partly from legacies.

This stock was lent out in small sums to the members at interest, and for repayment of which each man had a pledge or surety, also a member of the Gild; thus investing the society with another fraternal purpose, that of mutual assistance. And so long as the capital was so employed the community flourished, but when, as I find was the case with all of them, the deposits, instead of being reinvested in the same manner, were laid out in new buildings, or sunk in the general expenses of the Gild; the result was a diminished capital, and an income unequal to the demands upon it.

This income was originally derived from the following sources, and is accounted for by the alderman in his annual compotus under the principal heads: *De firmis*, rents and profits of lands and houses; and *De incrementis*, the yearly increase or interest received from the brethren for the use of such proportion of the common stock as had been intrusted to his hands, which was at the rate of ten per cent.

Another ordinary, or in some sense extraordinary, source of income occurs under the head, "*de potationibus*," from collections made at drinkings by certain of the brethren. Receipts under this head of various amounts occur sometimes only once, at others, three or four times or oftener in the year; sometimes as made by one member, at others by several clubbing together. I infer that every member, at his or her—for we find these drinkings made by ladies—entrance, was bound to provide a potatory entertainment at his or her own cost, at which small collections were made from the members present for the use of the gild. And it would seem that this custom was instead of the payment of entrance-money, an item of receipt we seldom meet with, and in the few cases in which it does occur, the probability is that the person making the payment was to be exonerated from the

expense of providing the potation. The sums gathered in this manner are accounted for either by the alderman or officers appointed for the purpose, under the name of alms, *elemosinæ*.

The disbursements generally are classed under two principal heads, *de solutionibus*, and *de expensis*, but without any definite arrangement between ordinary and extraordinary payments, some items occurring as often in one list as the other. There are some annual payments, however, to be found in the accounts of all the gilds throughout their history, such as a fee to the Vicar of Wymondham for his *certen, certitudine, certifying the gild*, whatever that might be. This fee, originally 4*s.* 4*d.*, was in 1506 or a few years later reduced to 4*s.*; such also were an alms gift of 3*d.* to the lazars or lepers, a sum, varying in different gilds from 2*s.* 4*d.* to 3*s.* 8*d.*; for finding the gild light, which will be alluded to in the accounts themselves; one penny, or often a halfpenny, in oblation made at church on the second day of their festival, the Monday, on occasion of a solemn *dirige* held for the souls of departed brothers and sisters, as will be afterwards mentioned; one or two shillings for the services of a minstrel, but whether for festive or solemn occasions does not appear; and very generally 12*d.* *pro manefagio, janticulo*, the breakfast, of the brothers and sisters on one of the days.

Other ordinary payments were the rents due to the lords of the manors of which they held their estates.

It was by extraordinary expenses, such as repairs, that such inroads were made in their funds; and many of these I shall have occasion to remark upon in chronological order.

In my "Introductory Remarks to Extracts from Papers in the Wymondham Church Chest," which have been already printed in our Proceedings, I have alluded to those which I now present, and which the Society of Antiquaries has been so good as to return to me for the purpose of our own Society.

Extracts from the Book of the Gild of the Holy Trinity,

From 9th Henry VIII., consisting of 24 foolscap sheets.

This book has lost its cover. It begins, *Eleccio huius gylde ffacta in anno Regni Regis Henrici octavi in anno nono.*

Peter Belys	Rychard ffedymond	Richard Marten
John Den	Thomas Jaffrey	Stewyn Wodcoke
John Colyer	Thomas Knyght	Robert Wyllson
Stewyn Browne	Rychard Colyor	John Colman, Gen.

Elegerunt in officio aldermanij, Thomas lombe.

William Wodcoke	} <i>puruiores.</i>
Thomas Jaffrey	

Jaffrey Wytred, senescalys.

John Randell, bedalye.

Imprimis received of the Botlers . . . xxvs. iiijd.

*Received of John Browne ijs. iiijd. ffor dys-
charyng of ye holdyng of the gilde.*

*Itm. rec. ijs. iiijd. of James Colyor of the stoke
of the gylde.*

Itm. rec. of Rob. Jefferey of the stoke . . . vjs. viijd.

*Itm. rec. of John den & Rychard Baxter pro
ffyrma de pratys. [Sum not named.]*

Itm. rec. of Roberd Baxter pro ffyrma de claun ijs. iiijd.*

Itm. rec. of the cres of the stoke . . . xxxjs. iiijd.

Itm. rec. of John pye of ye stoke . . . vjs. viijd.

Itm. rec. of ij dryngkyns . . . iijs.

Sum of the Receyts . . . iiijh. vijd.

In p̄mis payd to Master Wekyr ffor the s'ten

(certifying) . . . iijs. iiijd.

Itm. payd to the Syr Adhñ parys preste . . .	iiij <i>d.</i>
Itm. payd for the lythe	ij <i>s.</i> jd. ob.
Itm. payd for dyрге on the monday . . .	iiij <i>d.</i>
Itm. payd to the clarke	jd.
Itm. in ofryng	jd.
Itm. ffor the lythes	ij <i>d.</i>
Itm. to ye sekemen	iiij <i>d.</i>
Itm. payd to Andrew the mynstrell . . .	iiij <i>d.</i>
Itm. payd to Strowger the mynstrell . . .	vjd.
Itm. payd to the King	vs.
Itm. paid ffor spargetyng of the howse . .	xs. jd.
Itm. payd ffor strawe w ^t the caryage . . .	ij <i>s.</i> xd.
Itm. payd to the thaxster and hys s ^t be v days .	ij <i>s.</i> vij <i>d.</i>
Itm. for ther Borde	xx <i>d.</i>
Itm. paid ffor a key	ij <i>d.</i>
Itm. paid to ye wyffe of Roberd Browne ffor warkyng be iiij days w ^t her borde . . .	xij <i>d.</i>
Itm. payd to Robert Browne for palyng by halfe a day	jd. ob.
Itm. payd to Barbore the mynstrell	xij <i>d.</i>
Itm. payd to Peter Colton for two years' rent .	vij <i>d.</i>
Itm. payd to Master Knewet for rent . . .	vjd.
Itm. payd for the Brekfast on the Sunday .	xx <i>d.</i>
Itm. payd for the Brekfast on the Monday .	iiij <i>d.</i>
Itm. payd for the makyng of thys accownte .	xvj <i>d.</i>
Itm. for a qweyer of paper	iiij <i>d.</i>
Itm. payd to Robert Jaffrey for hangyng up of the Bason	ij <i>s.</i> vjd.
Itm. of the towne gylde	xd.
Memorandum quod remanet in the hands of the Botlers	xxxj <i>s.</i> vjd.
Memorandum quod remanet in manibus Johannis calored Johannis Dene in pecuniis elemosy- narum	ix <i>s.</i> vij <i>d.</i>
M ^d . that Thomas Luce howythe to the gylde .	vs.

De incrementis.

In primis recepta de Ricardo Martyn viij*d.* pro incremento
vjs. viij*d.* Ricardus Baxter plegius, followed by fifty-four
more similar entries (the rate of interest being 10 per cent.)

10th Henry VIII.

Amongst the payments (owyth's charges) are:—

I ^{tm.} payd ffor the lygth upon the herse	ij <i>d.</i>
I ^{tm.} payd unto Thomas Carow beyng baly unto Mr. Kneuet in isto anno	vj <i>d.</i>
I ^{tm.} payd unto Peter Colton for Cromwell's parte	iiij <i>d.</i>
Memorandum of costs and othyr chargs payd owyth of the hands of the Buttelers.	
In primis payd unto roberd Dey and hys man ffor drawyng up of the gylld hall and all other chargys of wy . . . crafft	ijs. ij <i>d.</i>
I ^{tm.} payd for mete and drynke for hym and hys man for iij days	xx <i>d.</i>
I ^{tm.} payd Wylliam Betts smythe ffor yrne	iiijs. vij <i>d.</i>
I ^{tm.} payd for a schaldr. of lyme with the caryage	iijs. x <i>d.</i>
I ^{tm.} payd ffor colers beyng occupyed in the howse	vij <i>d.</i>
I ^{tm.} payd unto iij masyns and ij men ffor to make mortyr and ffor to serve them be the space of iij days with wages and mete and drynk	vjs. vij <i>d.</i>
I ^{tm.} payd for ij lode of sond wyth caryage	vij <i>d.</i>
I ^{tm.} payd unto the kyng for the taske of the medow	vij <i>d.</i>
I ^{tm.} payd for the tythe of the medow ffor ij yer	vij <i>d.</i>
I ^{tm.} payd ffor the rent of the same medow	vj <i>d.</i>
I ^{tm.} payd ffor the fynyng of the lyght be the trynhte	ijs. ij <i>d.</i>

I tm . spent whan the howse was drawn up . . .	xjd.
I tm . delyveryd unto Mr. Lombe beyng aldarman of as many namys the wyche have of the stokke as the incesse drawyth	iijs. iiijd.
I tm . delyuery unto Peter Dow and John Machyn Buttellers	xvjs.

11th Henry VIII.

Paid on to ych howse of ffryers in Norwyche . . .	viijd.
Paid for ye fynnyng of ye lygth	ijjs. viijd.
Paid for ye chayne	xvjd.
Paid in almes in ye chyrcheyard	iiijd.

12th Henry VIII.

The officers chosen were an alderman, two "Fest makers," two "Buttelers," two "to gadyr ye almes money," a Bedell and a senescall.

Rec. of John machyn and stephyn brown beyng buttelers the wyche left of ye drynkyne . . .	vjd.
I tm . rec. of ye same John Stephyn for latyḡ [letting] of pewt ^r	xixd.
M ^d . paid onto margeret vdon for brekefast sonday and monday	ijjs. viijd.

13th Henry VIII.

Rec. ffor the fferme of pewtyr	xvjd.
. . . ffor the fferme of the howse	ijjs. xd.
M ^d . of ye costs ffor the plawncering of ye kechyn.	
In p̄mis paid onto Wyllm Bale ffor CCC ffett of borde ye p̄ce	iiijjs. vjd.
I tm . paid onto John Dyn ffor C peces of tymbyr ye p̄ce	iijs. iiijd.
I tm . paid onto Pet ^r Colton ffor ye Dormont . . .	iijs. iiijd.
I tm . paid onto John Agas ffor caryng of ye borde from town	iiijd.

Itm. payd for xl pownd of pewtyr redy wrowght	xxs.
M ^d . rec. ffor the fferme of the medow . . .	vs.
M ^d . that ye kechyn ys latyn onto rycharð martyn ffro thys yer ffoloyng the þce .	vs.

14th Hen. VIII.

Also the said eleccon brought in at y^{re} gyld
that rycharð blomès holder of ye gyld
shall pay ffor the deffawt of a mynstrell xij*d*.
[He had been one of the feast makers appointed the
previous year.]

Payd to S ^r Adam for ye certen	iijs. iiij <i>d</i> .
The same Adam for hys labor to say Euynsong	iiij <i>d</i> .

15th Henry VIII. Thomas Knight elected alderman.

M^d. ye eleccon bryngeth in by v'dyzth [verdict] that
he that hathe of the stocke shall bryng yt in upon the
gyld monday or ellys be mydsonⁿ next folloyng or ells ffor
evy nobyll in ye payn of losyng of x*d*.

M^d. that Robert fflorey peynt^{er} hathe couenawntyd and
barganyd w^t the aldman and the brethyrn of the gyld of the
trinite in spoñlaw¹ in Wymūdhm ffor to peynt and make a
new bañ at hys ppyr costs in all cawsys patronyd and lyke
onto the olld bañ in euy condycon and the seyð aldman and
hys brethyrn to pay onto ye seyð robt fflorey liijs. iiij*d*.
sterlyng of the wyche ye seyð robt fflorey receyuyd the day
of ye makyng thys wrytyng xs. and so to reč no more monay
tyll the bañ be full ffenyschyd.

Itm. payd onto Robert fflorey ffor mendyng of the candylstyke bothe in golld and all othyr colers	iijs. iiij <i>d</i> .
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18th Henry VIII.

P ^d . to ye aldman for messpene	ix <i>d</i> .
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¹ Still known as *Spooner Row*.

Compotus Johis Dyn Aldermanni huis Gelde fact in crastino s̄e Trinitatis Anno Dñi quingentesimo vicesimo septimo et regni Regis Henrici octauī xix^{uo}.

The income this year was derived from the sources following, viz., 53s. from the butlers' (pincernis) balance of last year's account, from interest 28s. 4d., from repayment of a load 6s. 8d.

Reč vs. de Ričo Martyn p fir^a teñti huis gilde.

It. rec. vs. de Petro Colton p fir^a p̄ti huis gilde.

It. rec. xxd. ex legat. Rici Deyns.

It. rec. xxd. ex legat. Georgii Brown.

It. rec. ijs. ixd. ob. de potačōib; et ex dimissione vazoꝝ.

[Viz. 10s. for rent of the gild house and meadow, 3s. 4d. from legacies, and 2s. 9½d. from drinkings and letting out their vessels or pewter. The sum total of the receipts being £5. 4s. 1½d.]

The payments include:—

It. paid iijd. gevyn in elemos [alms] to the lazars.

It. paid vjd. in rent to M. Knyvett for ye medow.

It. paid iiijd. in rent to the lord of Crounwell for a pcell of our place paid to the place of Petyr Colton.

It. paid iijd. offeryd for iij deda.

It. paid jd. for scoryng of the Bason hangyng be y^e trinite.

It. paid vjd. to a minstrall in reward.

It. paid iiijd. to Sr Adam Bishopp seying evynson.

It. paid ijd. gevyn to Andrew Kerby in reward.

It. paid viijd. for wryghtyng of thys acompte.

It. paid viijd. for the Brekfast on the Monday.

It. paid viijd. to ij mynstralls in reward.

One of the "provisores convivii" elected for the ensuing year was "Mr. Pakk Rector de Morlee."

20th Henry VIII., 1528.

The receipts this year were:—

From interest money, 19s. 8d.

iijs. xjd. de potaçoẽ.

iiijd. ex dimissione le pewter vessell.

vijs. jd. gaderyd in elemose sylu^r.

The rent of the house, "tenti huis Gilde," this year was 7s.; that of the meadow 5s. as before.

The payments amounted to 23s. 2d., including:—

iijd. to Thomas Knyght for the ease of a wey.

ijd. to Andrewe Kerby holywat^r clerk in reward.

After the entry of the election of officers for next year is written the following:—

M^d. it is decreed by this Eleccion that the ffestmakers shall pvide for the company & the ſvice, y^t is to sey, for dener ffrumenti; for potage, hoole gosse & veale, pygge, moton, & custard; & lekewyse the Monday, except they shall ſve half gosse.

Also y^t eũy brother & suster shall paye for ther ffest to the ffest makers vjd. to be gaderyd the Monday.

21st Henry VIII., 1529. The receipts this year for rents include, besides 5s. for the tenement and 5s. for the meadow, 2s. for the farm of one acre and a half of arable land.

It. rec. vjs. viijd. de dño Johe Symonds Capellno p suo ingressũ ⁊ in plenā soluçoẽm p fine officij pvisoris conuiuij.

Amongst the payments:—

It. solut. ijs. xd. p inuençoẽ inis corā ymaginẽ Trinitatis in choro.

It. solut. ijs. viijd. dat in elemosina ad obit duoꝝ ffr̃m ist^a Gilde.

It. solut. xxd. dat in elemosinā ad exequias in ij^a die.

It. solut. vjd. in reddit. p pto hui^a Gilde maño de Grishaug.

It. solut. xjd. ⁊ ob. q^a in reddit. p aula ⁊ j ac^r ⁊ di t^r arabil' maño de Cromwell.

It. solut. iiij*d.* in reddit. p pcella p̄ti d̄co man̄io de Cromwell.

It. solut. ijs. ix*d.* p manifagiis ff̄m in die d̄nica.

De reparationibus.

In p̄ paid j*d.* for emendying of a gyld spete.

It. paid vijs. for iij loods of strawe w^t the cariage.

It. paid ijs. iij*d.* to Richard Alden thakkyng by v days & di w^t his bord.

It. paid iijs. viij*d.* to ij labores servyng hym by v days & di w^t his bord.

Itm. paid xijs. iij*d.* to the p̄ste syngyng by half a q̄rter of a yere.

22nd Henry VIII., 1530.

In p̄ solut. xijs. iij*d.* to a prest syngyng for ye brethers & systers souls by a q̄rter of a yere.

It. solut. iijs. iij*d.* to ye seid prest syngyng by ij wekys.

It. solut. ijs. iij*d.* p manifaḡ ff̄m in die d̄nica.

It. paid i*d.* in expens̄ at makyng the wey to the gyld medowe.

It. paid. xs. for ij tabyll clothis new bowght & for a pece of diaper to lengthē the clothe of the hey tabyll.

23rd Henry VIII., 1531.

Thomas Kett became a brother.

This year 26*s.* 8*d.* was paid to the priest singing, &c., for a quarter of a year.

It. sol. iijs. p manifagiis ff̄m ⁊ soroz̄.

It. sol. xij*d.* in expens̄ in sepeliendo Riči Martyn.

At the election of officers for the year ensuing, "Dñs Adam Bischopp" was appointed one of the "pvisores convivii."

24th Henry VIII., 1532.

Receipts, *vs.* pro firma prati hujus gilde de Roberto Colman sen. et Willelmo Peynter.

Item *xij*d. de Roberto Colman pro fir tre.

Item *vs.* de Agnete Agas p fir ten. huius gilde.

Item soluta *xvj*d. for making of new skochyns for ye almosse [almas.]

Item *vj*d. for a chayre.

Item *xd.* for ij formes and ij shelvys.

Also five entries of payments of *xvj*d. each for souls.

John Dyn, who had now been alderman for five years, disappears, and the next account is that of Adam Bischopp, capett and alderman of the Gild of the Holy Trinity, made on the morrow of the Holy Trinity, in A.D. 1533, and 25th Henry VIII.

The next account, of 1st June, 1534, contains payments of *xij*d. for ij new pewter dischys, and *xj*d. ob. for a new corned chayer.

In the account of 24th May, 1535, occur payments, *xd.* for a grosse of trenchers, and *vj*d. for x dosen spones.

John Dyn again elected alderman, and his account for 1537 includes *ijs.* paid to John Manning, smyth, for a trefootē and a pott hooke, petit allocari de *iiij*d. datis in reward to Thomas Dowsyng emendying the hey wey at bayett hyll.

The compotus for 1538 is the last year in which any sums are accounted for as received for interest, amounting to 16s. 4d. The rents received were 6s. I give the payments for that year in their entirety.

In primis soluta *iiij*s. *iiij*d. pro certitudine hujus gilde.

Item *jd.* in oblacone in secunda die ad missam.

Item *iiij*d. data in elemosinas ad lazaros.

Item *iijs.* pro invencoe luminis.

Item *xxij*d. pro *xij* new pewter salts.

Item *xjd.* ob. q. [*11½d.*] pro redditu aulæ et j ac̃ t̃re manerio de Cromwells.

Item *iiijd.* manerio de Grishaugh in redditu.

Item *vjd.* eodem manerio in redditu.

Item *ijs.* *iiijd.* manefagis f̃rm et soror̃ in d̃nica.

Item *iiijd.* p̃sbit̃o dicenti ves̃pas.

Item *ijd.* Andree Kerby in m̃cede.

Item *ijd.* Johanni Moore p̃coni in m̃cede.

Item *xijd.* scrip̃cōe huis computat.

Sm^a. *xvs.* *iiijd.* ob. q^a.

De repač.

In p̃ paid *viijs.* for v loods of strawe w^t the cariage.

It. paid *iiijs.* *vijd.* to Bartholomew Dey thakkyng by *vij* days & a half w^t his bord.

It. paid *ijs.* *xd.* to a laborer seruing hym ye same days w^t his bord. Sm^a *xs.* *vd.*

It. payd *viijd.* for the taxe of our sufferen lord Kyng.

It. payd *ijs.* *viijd.* gevyn in almes to ye ffrers.

It. paid *iiijs.* *vijd.* gevyn in almes at *iiij* obyts kept.

It. paid *xxjd.* in almes the Monday.

It. paid *vjs.* *viijd.* deliud to the almesmen.

Sm^a totat omī soluf̃ *xlvijs.* ob. qū [*½d.*]

And so the receyts excede the payments *ijs.* ob. wherof the seid ald askethe to be alowed of *viijd.* paid for ye brekfast of the brethern in the monday, and also askethe to be alowed of *xijd.* gevyn in reward to the ffestmakers, and also of *jd.* gevyn in reward to a minstrall. Sm^a of alowans *xxjd.*, and so resteth to the use of the Gild *iijd.* ob. remaynyng in the hands of the Ald.

The Compotus of 1539 contains but few entries, amongst the payments are:—

ijs. *ixd.* for the brekfast of the brethers & susters.

ijd. in expens̃ upon Ryngars.

And there are a few entries in an account of John Dyne (who it appears had continued alderman) in the year 1544, including—

Item payd to ye syke folke	iijd.
Item rec. of Thomas Coulter & Wyttm Wod-	
koke buttlres of ye sayd gyld	iijs. iiijd.
Item paid for the s ^t of ye gyllde of ye trenyte	
in sponer rowe to ye vycker	iiijd.
Item paid for ye brekefaste of ye seyde gyld to	
steven Wardn	iijs. iiijd.

The entries in this book, containing twenty-four foolscap sheets, or ninety-six pages, are in the same hand as the others, but the water-mark of the paper is distinct, viz., a kind of standard.

The Transactions of the Gilde of All Saints

from 1501, for thirty-eight years, are contained in a parchment-covered book of forty-eight leaves, of which the last ten (the last of all excepted) have not been used. They have all the water-mark of the hand and star.

Noia fratrum ⁊ soroꝝ Gilde Omi Sçoꝝ Anno Dñi millesimo ccccc^{mo} secundo et anno regni Regis henrici septimi decimo octauo.

There are forty-two names, including those of Maister Robt. Irby, vicař, Syr Thoñs Delys,² and two females; but to twenty-nine the words “⁊ vx^r eius” are added, making the total number of members seventy-one. Against most of these an “m” is prefixed, to signify the death. “Ao. dñi m^occcc^{mo} secundo,” four names added, with one wife. In 1503, one only, Johanna Curson. In 1504, Dompnus Jacobus Curson, and three others. In 1505, five names, including

² Also Will Blythe, John Curson, Thomas Blythe, John Davy, Thomas Dowsynge.

Dompnus Thoñs Greshñ, Dompnus Willñs Bury, Roberd roo, mawteгоре. In 1507, two men and their wives and two other females. In 1508, four. In 1510, Dñs Thoñs Porter, vicar^a, Frater Willñs horncreyk, and five others, with John Kett. In 1511, ten new members, of whom six were wives of old members, Dompn^a Johes Henghñ, Dompn^a Thom^a Osmūd. In 1512, four, of whom one from Kenyng-hale. 1513, one. 1514, Johes Drye, vič, Ričus Howse, Johes Kett, and others. 1516, Fra^l rob^t Wyndhous, and others. 1517, three married and one single woman. 1518, nine names, consisting of two men and their wives, two widows, David Flowredew, Fra^l Augu^st, F. Rob^ts Ryng, Dñs Rob^ts Fresdik. 1519, six.

These occupy the two first pages, and the list is continued on the last page of the book.

Computus Ricardi Denton, Alderman' Gilde Omī Sčoz
Anno dñi miñimo ccccc^{mo} primo.

De recepčónibus hō Ao.

In primis iij^s. iiij^d. rec. of ye legat [legacy] of Kateryn Botyld.

Et de xx^d. rec. of ye legate of Agnes Breese.

Et de xiijs. vij^d. rec. of drynkynge made be Thom^a Hendry and Thomas Dobbys. Et de ijs. viij^d. rec. of Robert Newman for hows Ferme [house rent] ye yer paste.

Sm^a. xxjs. iij^d.

Itm. de increment^a hō Ao.

In p^mis iiij^d. rec. de Jacobo Frosdyke p^r incr' de ijs. iiij^d., Willm. Blythe pleğ. Et de viij^d. rec. de Wiñmo Levald p^r incr' de vjs. viij^d., John Dunthorn pleğ. Et de viij^d. rec' de Wiñmo Blythe p^r incr' vjs. viii^d., Jamys Frosdyke p^t. Et de iiij^d. rec' de Johe Sawerd p^r incr' ijs. iiij^d., Willm. Lebald p^t. Et de iiij^d. rec' de Johe Curson p^r incr' ijs. iiij^d.,

Willms. Payn pt. Et de viij*d.* rec' de Willmo. Payn p
incr' vjs. viij*d.*, John Curson pt.

Sm^a. incr' hoc Ao. ijs. Sm^a. total recept' xxiijs. iij*d.*

Inde resoluta ut patet in ꝑcellis postea.

In ꝑmis iijs. paide to maister Vycar for ye certen of ye
Gylde.

Et de ijs. paide to Robt. Newman for fyndynge of ye
lyght ye yer past.

Et de iij*d.* paide in Elmes to ye syke men.

Et de jd. paide in offerynge ye secunde day.

Et de jd. paide for papyr.

Et de xvjd. paide to ye mynstrell.

Et de vjd. paide for wrytynge of y^a accompt.

Et de viij*d.* paide in rewarde to ye holders.

Et de iiij*d.* paide for rent to ye Baile of ye Fryres.

Et de ijd. paide to maister Knyvett's Baile for rent of a
purpris.³

Sm^a. ix*s.* vd.

De repaçonib; hō Ao.

In ꝑmis ijs. vjd. p^d to hary Seman for vj C strawe.

Et de xvij*d.* p^d to felde ye Thaxter for thackynge be
vj dies.

Et de xij*d.* p^d to his server be vj daies.

Et de xvij*d.* p^d for boordynge of ye seid Thaxter & his
man be vj daies.

Sm^a. vjs. vjd.

Sñ total solut. xv*s.* vjd.

Et sic recept^a excedunt soluť hō Ao. vijs. iiij*d.*

M^d. that Johis Baxster hathe gevyn a chetel [kettle] to
ye Gylde to be dyscharged of ye holdynge of ye seid Gylde.

³ A purpresture, originally an encroachment.

Elecchio huius Gylde.

[Names of twelve members.]

Ald. Ric Denton.

Puruiores, Willms Kyne [?] Gregory Calyor.

1502, 18th Henry VII.

The officers elected for the ensuing year were, besides the *Alderman*, *Bidellus*, Thom Blythe; *Custos lum^a*. Robt. Newman; *Pu'iores*, Thoms. Foster, Robtus Caly; *Vexillator*, Thoms. Walter; *Collectores*, Robtus Newman, Thoms. Sponer.

1503, 19th Henry VII.

The receipts include vs. viij*d.* rec. de Potacone fact. p Ricu Deynes et vx' ei' t ux' Tho'. Jeffrey, t viijs. j*d.* ob. rec. de Potacone p Thomā Godffrey t ux' eis t ux' Jacobi Petyt. And the payments, "ij*d.* solut for holdynge of the Torchys in ij*d.* die," and j*d.* "in a rewarde for berynge of the Baner."

There was a surplus in the funds, which was put out as follows: M^d. that the Alderman hathe delyverd to Ric^d Payne iij*s.* iiij*d.* ad incrementum, Ric Denton pleg. Itm. delyvered to Wiseman to increas xij*d.* Ric Denton pleg^{io}.

1504, 20th Henry VII.

Rec^a. iiij*d.* rec. de arrerağ voc. Obite money hō Ao.

Paym^a. ij*d.* in oblacone in pma t secunda die.

ii*d.* dat ad leprosos in Elemosina.

iiij*d.* solut^a for mercymment.

iiij*d.* pd. for a mece of mete to John Saaer beyng in povertē.

After electing the Alderman, two Purveyors, two Collectors, the Bedellus, the Candelberer, and the Vexillator, two others are named "for ye Derige."

"Also it is ordeyned be ye seid Eleccon y^t euȝ brother and sustyr in tyme to come xal pay an ob. to ye almes to

be paide at ye Gilde day. Also Willm. Blythe hathe grünted to ye Gilde a Busshell of malte to a drynkynge.

1505, 21st Henry VII.

M^d. of iijs. in mañ Johis Curson & Johis Cotynghm for to kepe ye costs of ye Dirige in ij die.

Itm. ijs. viij*d*. rec. de potačone facta ex dono Dñi Thome Dalys & Thome Dowsyng. Itm. iijs. rec. de potačone fact. ex dono Wifmi Freymond & Symonis Mannyng.

Besides the usual payment of "xij*d*. ministrallo pro suo salario," "ij*d*. solut. to ye wayte for a rewarde." Itm. ij*d*. soluta to the sextens for a rewarde."

Richard Denton, who up to this time had been yearly elected Alderman, had got into arrear in his account.

M^d. that Richarde Denton ow^t to ye Gilde for ye dette of Wifm Wyseman [for whom he had become surety] vs. Itm. de arreragio vltimi sui compoti ijs. ob. Itm. pro ingressū in Gild Jacobi Peyntor & Johanne ux'is ijs. iiij*d*. Itm. ex parte lega^t Wifmi Dyman iiij*d*. Summa xjs. viij*d*. In his stead they elected Alderman^s Dompn^s Jacob; Curson & puruio^r festi et Jacob; Peynto^r similiter puruio^r.

1506, 22nd Henry VII.

This is the compotus of "Dompni Jacobi Curson, Alder-mañ in Gilde Oñi Sčoz in Wymondham," who accounts for 6*s*. 4*d*., the balance of the last account. Sm^a. de catallis, cum 6*s*. 8*d*. and 3*s*. 4*d*. in the hands of persons named, xxxiij*s*. iiij*d*. He also accounts for 15*s*. 3½*d*. received from three drinkings, one of them being viijs. de potačone facta p dompnū Jacobū Curson & Johannā Curson. And he received 3*s*. 4*d*. in part payment of Richd. Denton's debt, the total receipts being £1. 7*s*. 3½*d*.

The ordinary payments were for the same purposes as last year; three extracted items being thus entered:—"Et de ijs. solut ministrallo hō Ao.; et de ij*d*. da^t ad aliū ministrallū,

et de ij*d.* da*ſ* ad sacristos pro regardis; total, 9*s.* 11½*d.*" The bill for repairs is referred to as entered elsewhere, and amounting to £1. 5*s.* 2½*d.* The payments, therefore, exceeded the receipts; and there was a balance left due to the alderman.

Two of the office-bearers elected are styled "Collectores pro le Dirige in ij die;" and two others, "Collecti pro Pota*co*nibus."

"M*d.* y^t I, Robt. Newmā, ġante on to ye gyld of All ye Seyntys my spetys & kaberns aft^r my dysseſse."

Three members, who each held in their hands 2*s.*, are "to kepe ye costs of dirige the next yer folowyng w^t ye ences of ye same."

1507, 23rd Henry VII.

Compotus Dompni Jacobi Curson, Monachi, alderman, &c.

Imp^o iij*s.* viij*d.* rec. de Pota*co*ne fact. p̄ Dompn̄ Willi*m* Bery, Dompn̄ Thomā Gresh*m*, et Matildam Challey.

"It*m.* iij*s.* x*d.* r' de pota*co*ne fact. p̄ Robtum Roo & Margaret Denton."

"Unde resoluta vijs. vj*d.* ob. p^d to Dawn⁴ Jamys Curson owyng on to hym of debbt as it apperyth in ye counte the yer paste."

xij*d.* Soluta Thome Bylawe minstrello.

1508, 24th Henry VII.

Compotus Thome Dalys, Capellani, aldermanni, &c.

It*m.* solut. p̄ dimid combi Brasij ad pota*co*em xij*d.*

It*m.* solut. mimo huis Gilde in A^o. ultio p̄terito iij*d.*

It*m.* solut. mimo hoc A^o. xij*d.*

The officers elected for the ensuing year, besides the Aldermen, are styled Provisores, Collectores, Dispensatores, Preconem, Vexillator, and Custodem lūis, Thomā Foster se*n* p̄ a^o seq*ũ* & habit p̄ labore xx*d.*

⁴ This is an unusual form of contraction for *Dominus*, but the more contracted form *Don* was not uncommon.

1509, 1st Henry VIII.

In þ solut iij*s*. viij*d*. to Robt. Godfrey for dawbyng our stabyll.

It. solut. j*d*. in espens. at heyeryng the seyd dawber.

It. solut. xij*d*. to Jamys Peynton for splents.

It. solut. ij*d*. for caryng of ye seid splents.

It. solut. xj*d*. to harry Seman for casting & caryng of iiij loods of cley.

It. solut. iiij*d*. to ye said harry for casting & caryng of ij loods of sonde.

It. solut. xvj*d*. to Thoñs Godfrey for ij Groundsyllys.

It. solut. xij*d*. to Robt. Dey for werkyng by ij days w^t hys bord.

It. solut. ij*d*. for hempe to bynde w^t splents.

It. solut. xd. for a quarter of lyme w^t ye caryage.

It. solut. xij*d*. to John lovyk for a C & a quater of Brykk Tyle.

It. solut. vd. for a combe of lyme w^t ye caryage.

It. solut. iiij*d*. for strawe to ye cleye.

It. solut. xij*d*. to John Godfrey for werkyng by ij days w^t hys bord.

It. solut. j*d*. for emendying a gate.

It. solut. ij*d*. for castyng of a chambyr w^t stoofe.

It. solut. ij*d*. for castyng and caryng of a lood of sonde.

It. solut. xvij*d*. for storyng of a welle & emendying of ye same.

It. solut. xd. for emendying of ye chymny in ye halle.

De expens—j*d*. in oblacone in ij^a die in Ecclia.

ij*d*. in oblacone p tribz obiñ. ij*d*. in misericordia.

The disbursements were now yearly exceeding the income.

After entering the election of officers for the year following :—

Mñ. q̄ hec est conuencio inter hanc Elecconem ⁊ Johem Colyour q̄ ad finñā dimiserñt mansionē suā p̄fato Johi a dañ huius Elecconis usq; ad finñ oīm scoꝝ q̄ erit in A° Dñi millimo

quingesitesio x^{mo} et solue^l vel solū faciet p̄fato Aldermanno et Gilde xiijs. viiij^d. ad f̄m̄ jnuen^ois sce cruc p̄xim̄ futu^r post dā^r huis Elec^ois xvjd. et ad f̄m̄ oīm sco^r tūc p̄ im seqū xiijs. viiij^d. in plenū solut.

Hec est Inuentoria fac^t in Anno Dñi millimo q̄uigentesio nono et regni Regis henrici octauī p̄mo de oībz vtensiliis hūis Gilde d̄ oīm sco^r.

In p̄is a ffalte tabyll ex dono Johis Swete.

It. a pleyn tabyll.

It. ij fformys.

It. ij stolys lying up on stulpis.

It. a cawdern w^t a byle ex dono Johis Baxter.

It. a Brassepott continens v lageñ ex dono Johanne Skynner.

It. ij prykket candelstyks of latyne.

It. xij platers of pewter.

It. xxv dishys of pewter.

It. xvij dawsters of pewter.

[The four preceding were afterwards struck through with a pen.]

It. a forme ex dono Johne Tyndehyve.

It. a laten candylstyk ex dono Agnetis Leman.

It. a brode laten basen [and a candylstyk] of the gyfte of Wyf̄m Lebald.

Thomas Dalys had been re-elected Alderman for the next year, but his name is not mentioned in the account which is headed "Compotus Gilde oīm sco^r in anno Dñi millesi^o ccccxj^o;" and the first entry is of the names of those present as "Elec^ois," who "elige^rnt in offi^c Aldermanni Jacobū frosdyk vndyr thys condycion yff the dey or the corse of kepyng come a boutte ye said Gyd. xall haue vjs. viiij^d."

The receipts include "of Joh Colyo^r for ferme of ye Gyldehall xiijs. iiij^d," "of a drynkyng made by sondry Brothen iijs. iiij^d."

Amongst the payments:—

To ye mynstrell for ſuying of ye gylde ijs.

Payd to Willm. Tetyssale for fynding ye lyth vpon ye pke
ijs. ix*d*.

Payd to a pore man of Thetford in almes j*d*.

Payd in offeryng at iiij obytts on ye gylde mūday iiij*d*.

To Robt. Jeffery ij sonys, for syngyng ij*d*.

To ye mynstrells for gyffs of songys of ye brethern ij*d*.

To Thoñs Bylowe for goyng to Chyrche w^t ye gylde iiij*d*.

Payd for makyng of iiij torchys vs.

It. payd for takyng up of ye lond to ye fryers iiij*s*.
iiij*d*.

It. payd for ye dyryge at ye gylde day xiiij*d*.

It. payd off ye det of ye yer last past vij*d*.

1512, 4th Henry VIII.

It. rec. iijs. iiij*d*. of ye elmes ġderyd on ye day ye dyryge
was kepte.

It. rec. xij*d*. de Edmūdo Glover ppt ffasciculos domi seu
[illegible].

It. rec. vijs. j*d*. de potačōe facē p Johem Hengham
monachū ⁊ Johem Gall. It. rec. vs. iiij*d*. de potačōe fact.
p̄ fatrē Horencrek ⁊ Johem Ket. Total receipts, £2. 7*s*. 10*d*.

Solučōnes de expensis:—

It. inpmis vs. iiij*d*. payd at ye dyryge in Chyrche kept for
all ye brothrys & systers.

It. solut. viij*d*. jn capicensu⁵ dñi Reġs Henrici octauī.

The items of payments under the head “de Reparačōib³”
are very numerous this year, in which it would seem the
Gild house was rebuilt.

It. solut. ij*d*. to Thoms. Fostē for werkyng by a daye in
takyng down ye old howse.

It. solut. j*d*. bent vpon ye sylle at ye howse reyseng.

⁵ Head money, or poll tax.

It. solut. ijs. iiij*d.* ob. to Richerd Aldman for thachyng vpon ye howse by ix days & a half. It. solut. xix*d.* for bordyng of ye said Richerd. Leaving the Gild in debt to the Alderman 34*s.* 8*d.*

Although James Frosdyk was re-chosen alderman, the compotus of the next year, 1513, 5th Henry VIII., is described as that of *Jacobi Poynter*,⁶ alderman, &c.

The payments mention viij*d.* to ye taske of ye kyng; xvj*d.* for makyng of a torche.

1514.

The alderman is named again as Jacob *Frosdyk alias Peyntor* [or Poyntour.]

The payments contain—viij*d.* for ye taske of ye halle.

iiij*d.* in expens at ye lattyng of ye mansyon.

ij*d.* in rewarde to a strawenge mynstrell [a frequent payment].

ijs. to ye dyryge rec. of Jone Curson.

iiij*d.* for m^{kyng} of yō in dento^r.

1515, 7th Henry VIII.

In p^a rec. xxvj*s.* viij*d.* de Johne Colyo^r p^r fir^m mansioñ, an increase of rent from 13*s.* 4*d.*

It. rec. xij*d.* de roo howse. [Qy. noo or new].

The expenses of repairs to the house are this year continued principally for timber, clay, and straw.

Also jd. in oblacyon on ye Gyld munday.

jd. for ij yrons for ye candylstyck.

1516, 8th Henry VIII.

The alderman called "Jacobus Frosdyk," again, who accounts for 4*s.* and 7*s.* received of "drynkyngs."

It. rec. vij*d.* ob.^a for pewter lattyn to drynkyngs.

⁶ He had once before been designated "Frosdyke alias Poynter."

1517, 9th Henry VIII.

4s. 8d. for three legacies.

Paid iijs. for fyndyng of ye lyght on ye candilstyke.

There is a further expenditure for repairs, to the gates, the well, and to ye goter [gutter] in ye Bakhows.

1518.

Rec. viijs. ijd. de potacoe fact p Ffrem Wyndhows ⁊ ux'em Johis Tye.

xijd. p ingressu Agnetis Archerd, vidue.

Payd iijd. to the ryngens.

Payd iiijd. to a fryer att the syngyng of hys messe.

1519.

Paid iijs. ijd. for ffyndyng of ye lyght before All Seynta.

Paid jd. to Tytsale emendyng the Greys [steps?]

1520.

It. paid iijs. for the kervyng and the gildenge of the candilstik.

It. paid ijs. viijd. to Thome Sterlyng for makeng ij candilstikks.

It. paid viijd. for the poyntyng of the seyd candilstikka.

It. paid xiiijd. ob. for a li. & a di. of waxe w^t the makyng.

There was a balance at the close in the hands of the alderman, and vijs. iiijd. in the hands of John Kensy and John Machen to bye pewter.

Jacobus Froedik at Peynto^r had been re-elected for 1521, but the compotus is of "Robti Froedik, Capellani, Alderman Fraternitatis Oim S^co^r," &c., who appears to have been elected on the gild day. The collectores, John Kensy and John Machen are said to hold "iijs. vd. ad erogand' elemosinas."

The disbursements include further small repairs, such as—
ij^d. for brykks to amend the herthes.

ijs. viijd. ob. to John Fischpole by v days.

iijs. to him for casting, whytyng, and redyng the hall.

xijd. for red oker to the hall.

ijd. for making clen bothe howses after the masons.

iijd. for a pownse to make w^t the pewter.

ijd. to John harrold for ryngyng.

1522.

Reč iijs. de Stephñio Verdon p dñis vtens.

Payd ijd. in oblacon the sonday & mudaye.

viijd. for a dede makyng & drynke at ye state takyng.

xjd. ob. for a li. of waxe & makyng.

iijd. to John Kensy for hys costs at ye markett corte
by ij days.

iijd. to John Machyn for hys costs of ye market corte
by ij days.

[They were the "collectores elemosine."]

vjd. to the alderman for hys costs iiij corte days.

ijd. to mother Seman for hyr mete.

ijd. to rowse for hys expensē at ye market corte.

vjd. ob. for iiij skor brykks.

jd. for ye streynyġ [distraining] of Stephyn Verdon [the
late tenant of the gild house, for unpaid rent.]

ijd. for ye pleynt enteryng.

ijd. for ye queste sūnyng [summoning.]

iiijd. for the jugemēt of ye corte.

jd. for the messe peny of Jone Tynwhyte.

iijd. for the caryeng a wey ye fylthe of ye strete.

iijs. viijd. for newe pewter.

[Intermixed with payments for repairs, chiefly to the
stable and gates.]

Thys is the Inuētory of the Pewter of the gyld:—

Fyrste xxxvjth platers of pewter. [The first x added
afterwards.]

It. xxxv [marked out with pen, and "v dussen" written
over] dysches of pewter.

It. xij sawsers of pewter.

It. ij rakks to toste w^t.

It. ij long spets.

It. a ffalt Tabyll in the hall.

It. ij stoles lyeng on stulpes.

It. a pleyne Tabyll.

It. ij fformes.

It. a cawdern w^t a byle.

It. a brasse pott.

It. a laten basen of the gyfte of Willm lebalde.

[The following apparently added from time to time.

It. at ye disposycon of John Kensy ye yong^r iij tapyl clothys ye to wone of v yardes & di, and ye tothyr tweyn of v yardes a pese.

It. a new salt w^t a cover.

It. x new salts w^towt covers.

It. ij new spets of yron.

It. a Garnische of newe pewter.

It. vij dussen Trenchers.

It. vij dys [dysen or dosen] sponys.

1523.

Rec. xijd. ob. de Johe Machyn for lattyng of the pewter.

Paid ijd. to a pore pryste on the gild mūdais.

iiijd. to the sextens for ryngyng at dirige by ij yers.

ijs. vjd. att ij kepyngs for Isabell Hikks & Agnes Seman.

ijs. to the kyng of preste money.

xxd. to John Kensy for stolyng of the botrye [buttery].

1524.

Rec. xviijd. for the latage [letting], of the pewter.

Pd. ijd. for mēdyng of the baner & to ye bedell.

1525.

Pd. ijs. iiij*d.* for stagyns for the pore folks w^t the candell.

xj*d.* for a li. of waxe & a q^rter w^t the making.

xixs. ix*d.* for a garnyshe of Pewter & an odd dysche.

[There is a change in the handwriting towards the end of the account, and the alderman elected is John Kensy, jun.]

1526, 18th Henry VIII.

Rec. iiij*s.* ex dimissione le pewtor vessell.

Paid iij*s.* j*d.* for xj new salts bowt to the gyld.

vs. to John Heyns for ij new spets.

[After the election of officers for the next year] :—

M^{d.} that Robt. Rynge hathe made hys ffyn for the ffest makeyng for ye s^m iiij*s.* to be payd xij*d.* quarterly tyll the seid iiij*s.* be payd to the use of thys gyld.

Item that S^r John Sygar is receyvid a brother of this Gild and the seid S^r John Sygar g^unteth to pay to the use of this gyld x*d.* quarterly till ye s^m of iij*s.* iiij*d.* be paid, so that hereafter he shall not be charchyd w^t no offyce belongyng to this gyld.

1527.

Reç iiij*s.* de Johe Rynge in plena solu^t p finē offi['] puisoris conuivij. It. rec. iij*s.* iiij*d.* de dñō Johe Sygar in plena solu^t p eodem.

Paid v*s.* viij*d.* to Thoñis Petyte in a reward to bere the ffest thys yer in the stede of Richard Martyn [who had been chosen one of the purveyors at the last election.] And so that the seid Thoms. Petyte [an error for R. Martyn?] shalbe dischargyd of the ffest kepyng for this tyme.

Paid i*s.* j*d.* for the light ffyndyng vpon the perk.

vj*d.* for wax to the light of thys Gyld w^t the making of the same.

iiij*s.* j*d.* for xj new salts bowt for the gyld.

1528.

Rec. ijs. iiij*d.* ex legať Jacobi Frosdyk.

Paid ijs. v*d.* for the obits of Dame [*sic*] Wiſſm Bury,
Jone rowse, & Margaret Sawer.

to hewe leveriche for a Garnyshe of Pewter xxiijs.

to John heynes for a bonde to ye grett chetill [kettle]
& ij Gryns x*d.*

to Robt. Drake 3ving the rigger [thatcher?] by
a day w^t mete & drynk iij*d.*

M^d. that John Cotinghm hath pmysed to the Eleccion to
be discharged for ever of the Fest holding vs. to be paid at
the next gild x*d.* and so yerly at ye gild day till the seid
vs. be full paid.

1529.

Rec. iiij*d.* de obit^e Robti Clere 3 Edwarde Knyvett,
militū p luie Gilde.

Eleccio p aldmanno, Thom^s Sendell, also one of the
puisores convivii. The collectores also "Custodes vasorum."

1530, 22nd Henry VIII.

Rec. ijs. viij*d.* de Willmo Rowse et Stepho Vardon, col-
lectoribz huis Gilde, eisdem delibat ad compoť vľf Johis
Kensy ut itm patet.

It. rec. ijs. v*d.* m^o. collect in pecuniis elemosine.

It. rec. iiij*d.* in restituťoe of j le pewter saler p*d*cť.

Soluta iiij*d.* dať Johi Dewe wayt m*o*cede.

Soluť j*d.* dať pconi isti^e gilde.

The sum total of receipts for the year was lx*s.* x*d.*, the
payments, xxjs. v*d.*; and ijs. viij*d.* were delivered to the
collectors for the ensuing year, and the balance, xxxjs. ix*d.*,
handed over to Mr. John Drye, elected alderman for the
following year, "et sic dcus Thom^s Sendell exo*n*at et quiet^r
recessit ab hoc compoto."

Computus M^{ri} Johis Drye Aldermanni Gilde oim sťoř

facta die lune p^xime post f^fm om̄ S^coꝝ anno Dñi millimo quingen^{mo} tricesimo p^{mo} [1531] et regni Reg^e Henrici octavi vicesimo tercio.

Rec. ijs. viij*d.* de Wiſſmo Rouse ⁊ Wiſſmo Garrard de pecuniis sibi ſ^udit ad expendend in obitibz anno p^{re}cedente.

It. rec. ijs. *vd.* collecta hoc Ao. in pecunijs elemosine.

It. rec. ijs. *ij*d.** for chyppya.

Soluſ ijs. *ij*d.** p jnuen^{co}e luís corā crucifixo.

Anno 1532, 24th Henry VIII.

The disbursements are chiefly for "makyng a pentise" [penthouse?], *xs.* for ij m^l ⁊ di of thek Tyle [roofing tile.]

iijs. *iiij*d.** for v C bryk Tyle w^t the caryage.

xd. for ij C ⁊ di of iijs. ⁊ iij peny nayle.

It. soł *xvd.* disposit p aia Wiſſi Hornkek f^fris.

It. soł iijs. *ij*d.** disposit p aīabz f^frm et soroꝝ huis gilde defūctoꝝ.

1533, 25th Henry VIII.

[For some time *4d.* a year had been returned to John Gale the tenant, whose rent was £1. 6*s.* 8*d.* per annum, and was so paid in 1531. In 1532 the alderman accounted only for 12*s.* 6*d.* for a half-year's rent from John Cheseman, a new tenant, and in future the rent was £1. 5*s.* per annum, from which *4d.* was remitted.]

Iſ payd *xxd.* in yssews to the lord of the man^r of Gris-haugh for a p^{re}st [a purpresture.]

It. paid ijs. *iiij*d.** gevyn in reward to Henry Dyman in consideracōn for holdyng the f^fest countabill for Tho^ms Carrowe [one of the appointed provisors.] The disbursements this year exceeded the receipts.

A.D. 1534, 26th Henry VIII.

The receipts were only £1. 9*s.* 4*d.* for the year, the out-goings £1. 8*s.* 2*d.* And so the payments w^t arrerages excede the receyts *xxviij*s.** *ij*d.** dew on to the seid Alderman.

The collectores render a distinct account.

M^d. remaynyng ijs. jd. in the hands of the collectors.

It. rec. xvij^d. gadered for the Almoſe this yere, wherof payd firſt xvjd. for the obite of John Machyn.

It. xvjd. for the obite of John Tye.

1535, 27th Henry VIII.

Paid xs. for the ffyne of a p̄preſt takyn of my lady Knyvet.

ij for brown of Spayne. [Something used for repairs.]

The officers elected for the ensuing year were the alderman, (Mr. John Drye the Vicar), two providers of the feast, two collectors, a bedell, and a vexillator.

Computus Mr. Johis Drye, aldermanni, &c. Computant a ffō oñi scoꝝ A°. Regni Reĝ Henrici Octauī 27° usq, ad ffm de 28°.

The income was nil. “Domus istis Gilde stetit vacua hoc A°. ⁊ sic nⁱ reč.”

De solut. In p̄mis solut iiijs. m̄ vicario p̄ certit hui^a gilde.

It. solut. jd. in oblacoibz dñicā et die lune.

It. solut. iij^d. dat. in elemosina ad lazaros

It. solut. ijs. p̄ inuençōne lūie.

It. solut. ijd. mañlio de Gristhaugh in reddiř.

It. solut. ijd. mañlio de Chosele in reddiř.

Sm^a. vjs. viij^d.

De expens. In p̄mis solut. ijd. p̄ fine mesuagii teñt de mañlio de Chosele.

It. solut. iiij^d. p̄ copia rotulaꝝ curie euisdē mañlii expir.

Sm^a. vjd.

M^m. q̄ dca Fraternitas debet p̄dco aldmanno xxxvjs. ix^d. ex arreraĝ vlř compořs ut p̄ in pede dicř compoř.

And there is no election of officers entered.

The fresh account in the book is that of John Drye, who

was alderman to the last, for the year 28th and 29th Henry VIII., when the only sum received by him was 10s. de Rico Kedele p firn mesuağ dce Gilde oim scoz vl^o repaçoēs domoğ dci mesuagii.

De solut. Inp solut. iiij^s. m^o vicario p certitud hui^s gilde.

It. solut. jd. in oblacone die dnica.

It. solut. ijd. dař in elemosina ad lazarus.

It. solut. n^o p lūie hoc A^o. qz non est inuenř.

It. solut. ijd. mañio de Grishaugh in reddit.

It. solut. ijd. mañio de Chosele in reddit—Sm^a. iiij^s. vijd.

It. solut. iiij^s. dař Rico Kedell firmerio in mcede.

M^a. q. dca ffraternitas debet pđo Aldermanno xliij^s. xjd. ex arrerağ vl^o compoř ut pğ iřm.

Sm^a. totař omi soluř cū arrerağ xlvij^s. xd.

Et sic soluř cū arrerağ excedūt reč xxxvij^s. xd.

Vñ placuit dco alđ remittere iiij^s.

Et sic debit est dco alđ xxxiiij^s. xd.

[But whether he ever got it does not appear.]

The rest is blank.

On the last leaf is entered the account of receipts and payments of the collectors for the years 1525, 1526, 1527, and 1528.

M^d. reč in pecunii elemosine in A^o. dñi m^o ccccc xxvij^o ijs. xjd. inde resoluř vd. ex arrerağ vl^o anni.

In p soluř p aia dñi Johis Siger xiiij^d.

It. p aia Margareř Kiddell xiiij^d.

It. solut. in die lune ad exequias ijd. et sic queř est.

M^d. reč in pecunijs elemosine in A^o. dñi [1528] ijs. viij^d.

[No account of its disbursement.]

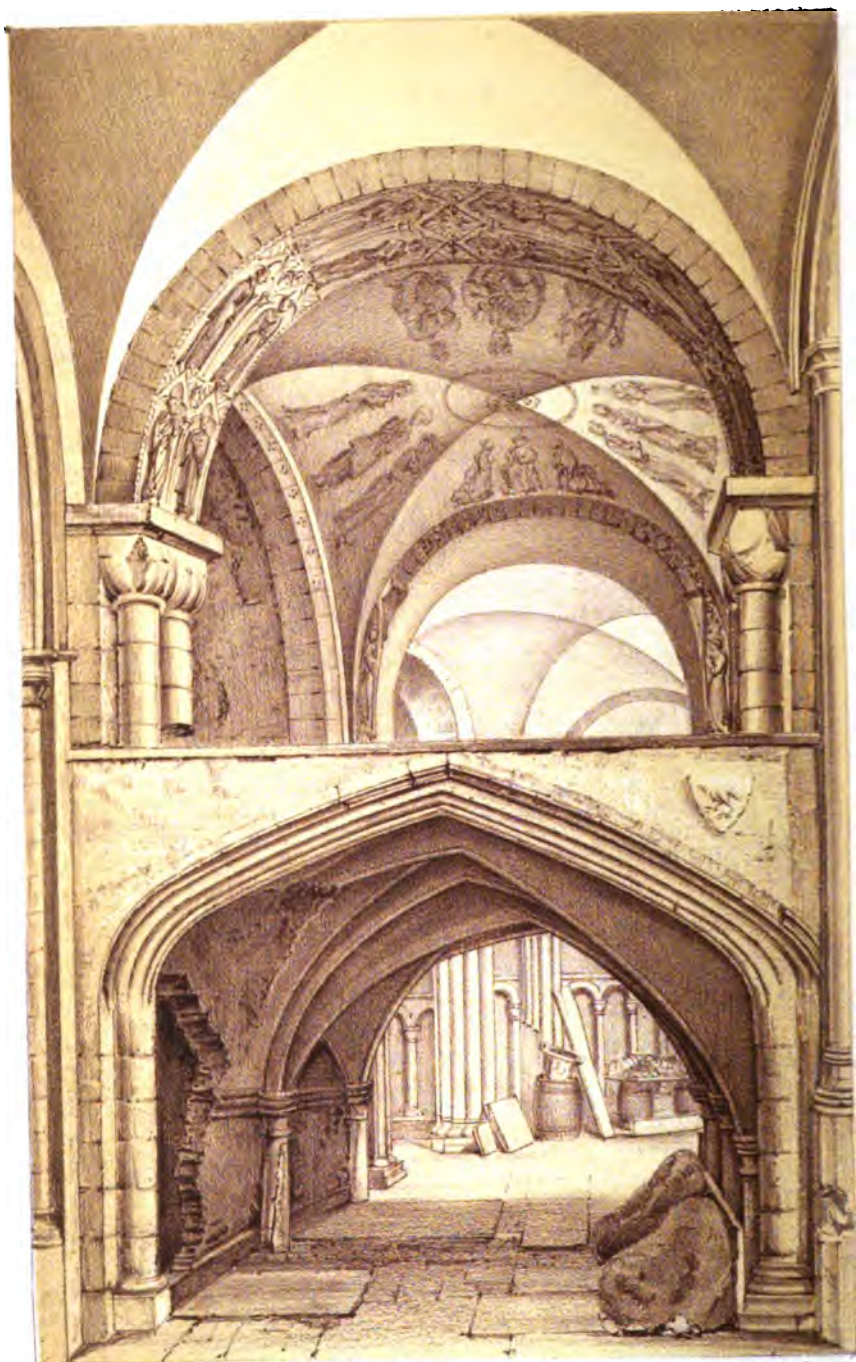
The last page in the book is a continuation from the first leaf, of the names of those entering the Gild, viz. :—

In 1520, one man only ; in 1521, two do. ; 1522, one man and two married women ; 1523, none ; 1524, two men and one wife ; 1525, man and wife and another wife ; 1526, Dñs Johes Sygar, Capell^r, and four others ; 1527, two

females; 1528, two males; 1529, none; 1530, six persons; 1531, a man and his wife; 1532, Thomas Kett, Sibilla Sendell, Elizabeth Ponyant, vidua; Johes Cheseman, and Johes Dewe.

On the inside of the parchment cover is this motto:
"Dum sumus in mūdo vivam^{us} corde secundo."





Cowell.

ipswich

NORWICH CATHEDRAL.
NORTH SIDE OF PRESBYTERY.

The Confessio or Relic Chapel,

AN ANCIENT CHAMBER IN NORWICH CATHEDRAL,
ON THE NORTH SIDE OF THE PRESBYTERY.

COMMUNICATED BY

THE VERY REV. E. M. GOULBURN, D.D.,

DEAN OF NORWICH, *President.*

THIS chamber, which is erected, at an elevation of 10 feet 8 inches from the ground, in the first bay of the presbytery aisle west of the chord of the semicircular apse, has undergone several alterations.

Originally the eastern and western ends of this chamber reached only as far as the Norman columns supporting the arches which span the aisle, as is evident from the vaulting which carries the floor of the chamber. This vaulting, supported on dwarf columns, is of the Decorated period. Subsequently the vaulting and chamber were extended eastward and westward about three feet either way, reaching to the outside of and enclosing the Norman columns, thus adding about two yards to its former length. This alteration was made in the Perpendicular period, as is shewn by the outer arches supporting the additional work and

spanning the aisle, and has given rise to many doubts with regard to the propriety of assigning the vaulting to the earlier period. The blocked-up wide segmental arch on the north side of the chamber is also of the Perpendicular style.

Very clear evidence exists of there having once been a series of steps leading up from the sacrarium to this chamber, and these were in existence when many of the Norman columns and arches of the presbytery were altered to the Perpendicular. Until recently access to this chamber could only be gained by using a ladder, the steps from the sacrarium having been removed. Recent alterations have clearly revealed the fact that there once was a spiral stair from the floor of the aisle to the north-west angle of the chamber, and this stair is now reinstated.

It has also been discovered that the quadruple Norman vault of the presbytery aisle above this chamber, and forming the ceiling of it, is curiously painted. Each section contains three figures, with their names above them, and the whole of the names are enclosed in a circle, the centre of which is the point of intersection of the ribs of the vault.

In the eastern section of this vault is represented St. Peter, with St. Paul on his left and St. Andrew on his right. St. Peter raises a key in his right hand, and carries a crosier in his left. He is apparently habited like an archbishop. St. Paul is holding the sword, and St. Andrew has the saltire cross in front of him and rather low down. In the southern section the central figure is that of a bishop, who has St. Edmund on his right hand, and St. Laurence on his left. St. Edmund is presenting a sword to the bishop, or the bishop to St. Edmund—the painting is so defaced that it is impossible to say which. In the western section are represented the Blessed Virgin and the Divine Child, having St. Catharine on the left hand and St. Margaret

on the right. The Child seems to be looking up earnestly into the Mother's face, and grasping at an apple which she holds in her hand.¹ St. Catharine carries her wheel; and St. Margaret, under whose feet are seen the twining folds of the dragon, holds a crosier in her left hand and a palm branch in her right. This must have been a very elegant figure. In the northern section are three bishops (or abbots), with pastoral staves: the two westernmost figures carry the crook turned inwards, the easternmost turns it outwards. These bishops have all low-peaked early mitres, different from the figure of St. Peter in the eastern section, who has a high angular mitre, tapering to a point. The names over their heads (one all but effaced) shew them to be St. Martin, St. Nicholas, and St. Richard of Chichester. It has been said that in mediæval art an abbot is represented with the crook of the pastoral staff turned inwards, to show that his jurisdiction extended only to his own monastery, but a bishop outwards, to indicate jurisdiction over his diocese. But Dr. Rock has shown that this distinction cannot be substantiated. In the centre of this quadruple vault is a seated figure (doubtless representing our Lord) in a circle surrounded by a wreath of very elegant foliage (the thorn.) There is a ring in the ceiling to suspend the lamp from, but it is not placed in the centre, lest it should interfere with the figure of our Lord. The vault, where it is not occupied by the figures, is covered with an elegant blue scroll pattern. The soffit of the western arch has twelve figures upon it, which one might suppose to represent the Apostles, were it not that three or more of them rather resemble women than men. Each of them stands under a trefoiled canopy. The soffit has a border of dancetté form, green, black, and red. The soffit

¹ The Blessed Virgin is occasionally represented in mediæval art with an apple, not with any reference to the fall of Eve, but as a kind of Christian Pomona, supposed to give fertility to the earth.

of the corresponding eastern arch does not appear to have been painted. It is clear, from marks in the masonry, as also from many plaster fragments discovered in the flooring of the chamber, that there has been a reredos to an altar under the eastern arch. Angels are represented on the western face of the arch. The angel on the southern side is censuring, evidently towards the central figure of the reredos. On the capital below this angel is a circular medallion containing the head of a bishop, with a low pointed mitre. The face is a juvenile one.

Mr. Bond of the British Museum, to whom a copy of these paintings was shewn, considers them to be an unusually interesting relic of ecclesiastical mural art. The date he assigns to them is the earlier half of the fourteenth century, to which belongs the angular single-peaked mitre, which appears on the head of St. Peter. He thinks that they probably commemorate the visit of some great personage to the cathedral, who may have been Isabella, (the "she-wolf of France") consort of Edward II. Castle Rising was assigned to this queen as a residence during the latter years of her life; and it is known that she made pilgrimages thence to Walsingham and other sacred spots in the vicinity.

It is difficult to say why St. Richard of Chichester should appear on the northern section of the vault.

Richard was born at Droitwich in 1197, and died in 1253. He was appointed Bishop of Chichester in opposition to the wish of Henry III., who detained the temporalities of the see for two years. An ascetic, and a man of great learning, he had much influence, and induced various bishops, including the Bishop of Norwich, to promote pilgrimages to Chichester, that the pilgrims might give of their means towards the restoration of the cathedral. Whether Richard had any connexion beyond this with Norfolk and Norwich, is not clear; but he left a cup to the Abbey of Marham;

and he is mentioned in Mackenzie's Latin book of the Bishops of Chichester as having been vicar or curate "de Castra," but no record is found of him either at Caister by Yarmouth, or Caistor by Norwich.

On the southern spandril of the western Perpendicular arch below this chamber there is a painted shield, the arms upon which are partly effaced, but so far as they can be traced they bear a strong resemblance to the arms ascribed to Bishop Wakering (1416—25) in *Norfolk Archaeology*, iii., plate 1, next to p. 244, viz., Azure, a pelican in her piety or.

Some of the tiles with which the chamber was paved were found *in situ*. They are of two kinds, the smaller being four and a half inches and the larger nine inches square. The latter are incised with the arms of Morley impaling Despencer. Tiles of both kinds still remain under the wall of the blocked-up arch on the north side. Thomas Lord Morley (who died in 1417) was a descendant of Hubert de Rye, who laid the second stone at the foundation of the cathedral, and his second wife (who died c. 1426) was Anne, daughter of Edward Lord Despencer, and niece of Henry Despencer, Bishop of Norwich (1370—1406.) It may fairly be assumed that Lord and Lady Morley contributed to the cost of the enlargement of the chamber, and also to the cost of an additional chamber, which appears to have been erected at this time on the north side of it, the two rooms communicating with each other through the open Perpendicular arch then substituted for the Norman external wall.

The late Mr. L'Estrange, in his paper describing this additional chamber (vide *Norfolk Archaeology*, vi., p. 177), has identified it with the sanctuary men's chamber demised by a lease granted in the year 1551 by the Dean and Chapter to Alexander Chapman. There was, however, a subsequent lease of the same premises granted 16th March,

28th Elizabeth (1586),² to Robert Cooper, viz., of a "howse³ with twoe chappells nere vnto the same, the one called St. Andrew's Chappell and thother called *the Relick Chappell*, and one old dowe howse or voyd rome⁴ ou the chappell called Jesus Chappell."

I conclude that the "Relick Chappell" was the old name for the two chambers, and that when they ceased to be used as a relic chapel the arch between them was filled up with rubble (a small opening for a door being left for a time and afterwards bricked up), and an external staircase made as a means of access to the northern portion, which was then converted into and used for a time as a sanctuary men's chamber.

The original structure is called by Blomefield and Philip Browne "the ancient Confessionary." The late Professor Willis, in his *Architectural History of Canterbury Cathedral*, p. 23, note b, says "*Confessio*, the Confessionary, must not be confounded with *Confessionale*, the Confessional, a place in which the Romish priests receive the confessions of their flock. The first is clearly defined by Du Cange as follows: '*Confessio* is a name anciently applied to the sepulchres of the Martyrs or *Confessors*, as they were termed. Over these altars were often placed, and hence the name was also given to the place under the high altar in which the relics and bodies of the saints were enclosed.'"

Erasmus, when he visited Canterbury Cathedral, was shewn a multitude of relics on the *north* side of the choir. The relics at Norwich may have been deposited in a shrine (feretrum) next the Norman column at the east end of the steps from the relic chapel to the sacarium. The large quatrefoil opening at the back was considered by Professor Willis to be a hagioscope, intended to afford a sight of the

² Cathedral Ledger, iii., p. 150.

³ Probably St. Anne's Chapel, adjoining the east side of the north transept.

⁴ Now the cathedral museum.

high altar from the north aisle. The late Mr. Harrod believed it to be an opening to an Easter sepulchre. But it may have been an opening to the feretrum for the introduction of brandea (pieces of cloth), which were supposed to be impregnated with sanctity after being placed near relics. And an ambry which has been discovered, with a lining of wood in the last stage of decay, in the south wall near the quatrefoil, may have been used as a place for the deposit of some of the relics.⁵

* * While allowing the above Paper to go under my name, as having sketched the first rough draught of it, I am bound to say that all that there is of research and discovery in it comes from my friend, Dr. Bensly, who has spared no pains in filling in my outline, and also from Mr. W. B. Spaul.

E. MEYRICK GOULBURN,

President.

⁵ Willis on *Canterbury Cathedral*, p. 101, note: ". . . within the feretory . . . there were ambries of fine wainscot for relics (Rites of Durham.)"

Robert de Grey, Recusant.

COMMUNICATED BY

THE REV. GEORGE CRABBE,

RECTOR OF MERTON.

SOME interesting documents have been recently discovered at Merton Hall concerning Robert de Grey, who was owner of Merton from 1566 to 1601. They afford such a good illustration of the penalties and persecutions to which a Norfolk Roman Catholic gentleman was subjected, for conscience sake, during the latter half of Queen Elizabeth's reign, that I think they may be worthy of record in the Journal of our Archæological Society.

The Recusants.

Popish recusants were persons who *refused* to acknowledge the Queen as spiritual head of the Church, and to attend Divine Service according to the forms of the Establishment.¹

¹ Popish recusants convicted of absenting themselves from church were disabled from holding offices or employments, from keeping arms in their houses, from maintaining actions at law, from being executors or guardians, from presenting to advowsons, and from practising in the law or physic; they were also debarred from travelling five miles from home unless by license.—*Historical Account of the Laws against the Roman Catholics in England*, p. 6, ed. 1811.

Queen Elizabeth became very bitter against them many years before she died, and, by excommunications, fines, disabilities, and imprisonments, tried to force them to conformity.

It is not surprising that the Queen should have departed from her first purpose, which was "not to follow the example of her sister's cruelty," and should have consented to the banishment, and even death, of such men as Campian and his fellow-sufferers of 1581, whom she regarded as plotters against her government, and who openly taught that it was justifiable to depose her. But it does seem surprising that her government should not, from mere policy, have abstained from passing the tyrannical laws under which such men as Robert de Grey and Humphrey Bedingfield, country gentlemen, who only wished to worship God in the way they had been brought up from infancy to think right, were imprisoned and fined in enormous sums of money. Many of the recusants were brought to ruin; and some, we are told, knowing that the government agent must get all, broke their windows, turned up their gardens, and destroyed their dovecotes and warrens. The punishment for recusancy was, even in the days when persecution on account of religion was thought necessary, far greater than the offence deserved, and therefore was both unjust and impolitic.

In a MS. folio (recently discovered at Merton Hall), by Sir Bassingbourne Gawdy of West Harling, Knight, three times High Sheriff of this county, there are several documents relating to Norfolk recusants, which show some of the persecutions they had to undergo between the years 1597 and 1600. The book is divided into two parts.

No. 74, part 1, is a letter from the Lord Chief Justice of the Queen's Bench (Popham) "to search the house of Francis Woodhouse at Breccles for Jesuits and seminary priests." This Francis Woodhouse, as we shall see presently, was an ally of Robert de Grey. He lived at Breccles Hall,

a large Elizabethan mansion which he had built, situated about four miles from Merton, and which was a well-known harbour for recusants. (See Dr. Jessopp's Paper in *Norfolk Archæol.*, viii., 303.)

No. 76, part 1, is a letter from the Bishop of Norwich (Redman), dated 1597, "to search at the house of ffrancis Woodhouse, Esq., of Breccles, for recusants, because there would be on the 19th March, 1597, a meeting there of divers and sundry recusant papists, with certain lewd and traitorous popish priests; also to search there for seditious books and writings, and for superstitious and popish vestures, garments, books, sup'altars, pyxes, crosses, challaces, paxes (silver plates for the kiss of peace), beads, and other popish things."

No. 18, part 2, is a letter, dated 1599, from the Lord Chief Justice (Popham), for the apprehending of two seminary priests.

Nos. 19, 20, 21, are letters to and from the Archbishop (Whitgift) in 1599, concerning Humphrey Bedingfield of Quidenham, Esq.,² a recusant, who, being aged (he was seventy years old) and infirm, and of very quiet and honest conversation, had been enlarged out of prison eleven years before, and committed to the private custody of a clergyman, one Daniel Reeve,³ Doctor of Divinity. Mr. Bedingfield was not to go above two miles from the house, nor to hold converse with other recusants, nor to keep a recusant servant.

² Falconer's Manor, in Quidenham, came to the Bedingfields through the Tudenhams, as did Oxborough. Sir Edmund Bedingfield (who died 1469) of Oxborough and Quidenham, left the latter to his fourth son, whose grandson was Humphrey Bedingfield the recusant. Humphrey married Margaret, daughter of Edward Cocket of Ampton, and died without heirs male. He sold Quidenham in 1572. He died in 1609, æt. 80.—From Blomefield, and *Norfolk Visitation*, i., 164.

³ Daniel Reeve, appointed Rector of Quidenham 8th June, 1584, by the Bishop, by consent of Humphrey Bedingfield, Esq., patron.—Blomefield.

He is said to be grown into great decay and poverty, and permission is asked that his appearance in person may be excused.

Nos. 33 to 37 contain directions concerning such persons as shall go beyond the seas without license, or repair hither from the parts beyond the seas, dated 1599.

The above letters are addressed to Sir Bassingbourne Gawdy and other officials of the county, and they are of great interest as proofs, hitherto unpublished, of the rigour with which Norfolk recusants were treated.

The Parentage of Robert de Grey.

The subject of this paper, Robert de Grey of Merton, Esq., was representative of an ancient and knightly family which had been settled at Merton in Norfolk since the marriage of his ancestor, about 1340, with Isabel Baynard, heiress of Merton and of Baynard's manor in Bunwell. The first English de Grey, Anschitel, and the first English Baynard, Ralph, both came over with the Conqueror, and their names are in the roll of Battle Abbey, their lineal descendant being the present Thomas de Grey, sixth Baron Walsingham of Merton.

The following table shows the connection of the members of the de Grey family that are mentioned in these pages:—

Thomas de Grey, the Priest, died 1st September, 1556; buried in Merton aisle.	Elizabeth, da. of Sir Richard Fitz Lewes of Thorndon, Essex, Knt., died 1515; bur. in Merton aisle.
Edmund de Grey, son and heir, died 23rd August, 1548; buried in Merton chancel.	Elizabeth, da. of Sir John Spelman of Narborough, Knt.

(a)

(a)

Thomas de Grey, eldest son and heir, died 12 May, 1562; bur. in Merton aiale.	= 1st, Anne, da. of Henry Everard of Lynsted, Esq. 21y, Temperance, da. of Sir Wymonde Carewe of Anthony in Cornwall, Knt.	Robert de Grey, the RECUSANT, 2nd son, became heir to his nephew. Died 28th Feb., 1601; bur. in Merton chancel.	= Anne, da. of Sir Thomas Lovell of East Harling, Knt. Bur. in Merton chancel 16th May, 1600.	Edmund de Grey, 3rd son, of Baynard's manor in Bunwell; was 59 years old in 1594.	= Mary, da. of Jernegan.
Thomas de Grey, only son; died at Baconsthorpe 21st March, 8th Eliz. (1566), at the age of 11 years.	= Elizabeth... who afterwards became the wife of Nicholas Mynne.		Sir William de Grey, Knt., bur in Merton chancel 20th Oct., 1632.	= Anne, da. of Sir James Calthorpe of Cockthorpe, Knt.; buried in Merton chancel 19th June, 1662.	

Fifth in descent from Sir Thomas de Grey, who married Isabel Baynard, was Robert de Grey's grandfather, Thomas. He was eldest son and heir of William de Grey, by Mary Bedingfield⁴ his first wife. He was fifteen years old at his father's death. He came of age in 1501. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Richard Fitz Lewes, Knt.,⁵ of Thorndon, Essex. She died 1515; and it is recorded on her husband's brass in Merton Church, that after her decease "he made hymselfe Preast, and so lived xli yeres, and dep'ted out of this Lyfe ye fyrst of Septembre, 1556." Blomefield states that Thomas de Grey did not inherit his father's estate, and that he had no children. Both these statements are, I

⁴ In the inquis. p. m. of William de Grey, dated 21st May, 10th Henry VII. (1495), Thomas is called the son of William, without mention of the mother; "qd. Thomas Grey, filius eius est eis heres ppinquior et est etat xv annor et amplis;"—but Edmund, William's other living son, is called the son of William and Grace (the 2nd wife). It is therefore a fair inference that Thomas was the son of the first wife, Mary Bedingfield. In default of heirs male of Thomas and Edmund, the manor of Baynards was entailed upon the heirs of Thomas de Grey and Isabel (Baynard) his wife, i.e., going back five generations. The three other sons (see brass in Merton nave) must have died young.

⁵ See brass in Merton aiale.

believe, incorrect. His wife died twenty years after his father, so that during that time grief for her death would not have prevented him from enjoying the estate; but we have presumptive evidence that he held his Merton manor for seventeen years after her death, and then resigned it; for it was in that year (1532) that Edmund, his son and heir, held his first court for that manor.⁶ Thomas de Grey continued to hold his courts for his manor of Caxtons in Cornerd up to his death; his last court being held 2nd and 3rd Phil. and Mary.⁷ As to Blomefield's other statement, it is certain that Thomas de Grey had one son, Edmund, and one daughter, Mary (mentioned in her nephew Robert's marriage settlement). I think he had two other sons and

⁶ "Marton Hall. Curia prima Edm'ndi Grey genosi filii et heredis Thome Grey clerici filii Willi cu' leta ibm tent die lune px post fest'm Epiphis anno regni Regis Henrici Octavi vicesimo tertio (1532)." Judging by the year of the coming of age of his eldest son, it was in the year 1531 that Edmund married.

⁷ After the death of Thomas the Priest, the Manor of Caxtons did not descend to his eldest son, Edmund de Grey, Esq., but went to William Grey, Gent. "Cawstons in Cornerd parva. Curia prima Willi Graye generosi die Sti Mathei appli anno Philippi et Marie tertio et quarto," (1556).

There is no evidence to prove whose son this William was; indeed there are four William Greys mentioned about this time, not one of whom can be at present identified:—

William of Caxtons, who succeeded to that manor in 1556 (on the death of Thomas de Grey of Merton, Priest), who held it till at least 1568, and who had a son Thomas, alive in 1601; Thomas not succeeding to the manor, which reverted to the de Greys of Merton before 1583. A William Graye was buried at Little Cornerd 9th February, 1572.

William of Lubenham, who bought that manor in 1500. Edmund de Grey succeeded to it, and it was sold (probably by Robert) before 1569.

William of Griston, whose only son was John (see *Visitation of Harvey, Clarencieux*, 1567, which pedigree, however, is not trustworthy), and whose father was John Grey of Methwold.—See John Grey's will, of Methwold, dated 27th March, 1557, in Norwich Probate Office.

William of Thompson, who had three children—Gabriell, Gertrude, and Edmund, baptised there between 1545 and 1551; who probably lived there; (see *Lay Subsidy*, Thompson, 1543), and who was certainly a witness in 1557 to the will of John Grey of Methwold.

one other daughter; but of this I have no proof. He was at his death seventy-six (?) years old.

Edmund de Grey, father of Robert, was eldest son and heir of Thomas the Priest. He probably lived at Merton, after he got possession of the manor, in 1531 or 1532. He is called Edmund Grey of Marton, Esquier (deed 24th August, 33rd Henry VIII., 1541.) He married—probably in 1531—Elizabeth, daughter of Sir John Spelman⁸ of Narborough (see his brass in Merton chancel). Blomefield says that she brought Chervilles Manor in Beechamwell to the de Greys. Edmund de Grey was a great land buyer, and he lived at a time when he could gratify his taste at a small cost, for King Henry VIII. had just become master of the possessions of the Church, and granted many of them on easy terms to his favourites. In Thompson, the next village to Merton, there was a college of five priests, founded in 1350 by the Shardelowe family; and, at the dissolution, the king granted the possessions of this college to Sir Edmund Knevett of Buckenham, two members, at least, of whose family were attached to the Court. Sir Edmund Knevett sold these college lands, worth, according to Weever, £52 per annum (about £600 of our money) almost immediately, and Edmund de Grey was the purchaser, in the 33rd Henry VIII., of those portions that lay contiguous to his manor of Merton. For 1720 acres and common rights he paid £120.⁹

⁸ John Spelman, Serjeant-at-Law, was *firmarius* of the manor of Merton in 18th Henry VIII. (1527).

⁹ "Hec est finalis concordia facta . . . inter Edmundum Grey Armigerum, et Elizabeth uxorem eius querentes et Edmundum Knyvett et Annam uxorem eius deforcientes de trecentis acris terre centum acris pasture viginti acris bosci mille acris more et trecentis acris bruere [heath or furze,—old French, bruière] ac libertate unius faldagii et communitate pasture ad centum vacas cum pertinentibus in Thomeston Griston Watton Tottyngton et Marton . . . et pro hac . . . Edmundus Grey et Elizabeth dederunt predictis Edmundo Knyvett et Anne centum et viginti libras sterlingorum."—*Fest of Fines*. In the conveyance (same year) the lands are said to be "p'cell of the possessions of Tompson Colledge."

Edmund de Grey died 20th August, 1548¹, twelve years before his father, leaving three sons, Thomas, Robert, and Edmund; and three daughters.

Thomas de Grey, Robert's elder brother, was eldest son and heir of Edmund, and was seventeen years, nine weeks, and one day old on the 7th April, 2nd Edward VI. (1548), and in the guardianship of the King. He came of age 2nd February, 6th Edward VI. (1552); and on the 3rd February he asked for admission to his own property, which was granted him. He had the manor of Baynards in Bunwell; lands in Thompson, Griston, Watton, Tottington, and Merton; lands and tenements in Lubenham, Leicestershire; and lands and tenements in Lillington, Warwickshire.² He held his first court for the manor of Merton 1st and 2nd Phil. and Mary (1554),³ i.e., six years after his father's death, and while his grandfather was still alive, though within two years of his death. Thomas de Grey's first wife was Anne, daughter of Henry Everard, Esq., of Linsted in Suffolk.⁴ By her he had his only son and heir Thomas; and one daughter, who became the second wife of Robert Kemp of Gissing, Esq. Thomas de Grey's second wife was Temperance, daughter of Sir Wymonde Carewe of Anthony in Cornwall.⁵ She had

¹ See his brass in Merton chancel.

² Special livery after death of Edmund de Grey, dated 10th February, 6th Edward VI.

³ "Marton hall. Curia prima gen'alis cum leta Thome Grey arm..... die martis pximo post festum scte Fidei virginis anno regni dni Regis Philippi et d'ne Marie Regine primo et s'odo."

⁴ See his brass in Merton aisle.

⁵ The marriage with Temperance certainly took place before the 10th September, 5th and 6th Phil. and Mary (1558), as appears by a deed recited in the inquis. p. m. of Thomas de Grey, stepson of Temperance. "This indenture made the 10 day of Sept. yn the fyveth & syxth yeares of Philyppe & Marie between Thomas de Greye of Martenne yn consideraçon of a mariage had & solempnyssed betwene the seyde Thomas de Greye & Temperaunce his wyfe."—Inq. p. m. 28th May, 9th Elizabeth (1567). For the widowhood and second marriage of Temperance see note further on.

Baynards Manor in Bunwell, and Bury Hall in Ellingham, in dower; and, by the last will of her husband, she had also two parts of the residue of the lands for fourteen years; i.e., till the heir should come of age.⁶ She was, probably, very young when she married, as the dower was settled for four-score years.⁷ Thomas de Grey died 12th May, 1562, at Fetter Lane, London.⁸ In his will, dated 10th March, 1562, recited in the *Inspeximus*, 12th October, 13th Elizabeth (1571), he says, "I will to my brother Robert, so that he confesseth that he hath offended me, to have his annuity of 40*sh.*, to continue during his life." The inquis. p. m. after the death of Thomas de Grey is dated 18th July, 4th Elizabeth (1562).

Thomas de Grey, only son and heir of his father Thomas, was seven years four months and seven days old at the time of taking his father's inquis. p. m., 18th July, 4th Elizabeth (1562).⁹ He was afterwards a ward to the queen. He was married before he was eleven years old; no doubt sold by the Queen according to the cruel laws of wardship, by which guardians sold their wards, often for large sums of money. In the *Paston Letters*¹ there are many references to this tyrannical practice, which continued in force till the reign of Charles II. The wife's Christian name was

⁶ *Inspeximus* of writ of inquis. p. m. dated 12th October, 13th Elizabeth (1571).

⁷ "Yf the same Temperaunce nowe wief of the seid Thomas de Greye shall fortune to die before the end of the sayde terme of fourscore yeres."—Indenture recited in inquis. p. m. of Thomas de Grey, 28th May, 9th Elizabeth (1567).

⁸ ".... duodecimo die Maij anno regni dce dne Regine nuno quarto pdcus Thomas de Grey pater apud ffewter lane ppe London in com Midd obijt"—Inquis. taken at Watton, 2nd January, 23rd Elizabeth (1581). Copy at Merton Hall.

⁹ *Inspeximus* of writ, 12th October, 13th Elizabeth (1571), at Merton Hall.

¹ See *Paston Letters*, 66, 70, 71; also *Norfolk Archaeology*, iv. 286.

Elizabeth.² Thomas de Grey died at Baconsthorpe, his stepmother's residence, 21st March, 8th Elizabeth (1566),³ being, as I calculate, eleven years and seven days old. His inquis. p. m. was taken at Norwich, 28th May, 9th Elizabeth (1567).⁴ His uncle Robert was his heir.⁵

Robert de Grey.

Robert de Grey thus found himself, in 1566, when he was thirty-six years old, unexpectedly in possession of the family estates. Those estates comprehended the manors of Merton Hall in Merton, Caxtons in Cornerd, Baynards in Bunwell, Bury Hall in Great Ellingham, Chervilles in Beechamwell, Lillington in Warwickshire, probably Lubenham in Leicestershire, besides much land in the parishes contiguous to the Merton manor, which land had been purchased by Edmund de Grey, Robert's father;⁶ so that Robert possessed, for a country gentleman of those days, a large income. His son, Sir William, has told us, nearly enough, what this income was; for in a document at Merton Hall, in his handwriting, dated 1624, he recites his lands and rents

² In a deed at Merton Hall, 18th May, 24th Elizabeth (1582), being a conveyance of the manor of Lillington in Warwickshire, mention is made of Elizabeth, wife of Nicholas Mynne, Esq., of Little Walsingham, late the wife of Thomas de Grey, nephew to Robert de Grey.

³ "Thomas de Grey fil et heres p'dcti Thome de Grey..... obiit apud Baconsthorpe vicesimo primo die Marcij anno octavo pdict dne Regine."—Inspeximus of writ of inquis. p. m. of Thomas de Grey, son of Edmund, dated 12th October, 18th Elizabeth (1571), at Merton Hall.

⁴ "Inquisicio indentat' capt' apud Norwicum xxvij die mensis Maij anno regni Dne nre Elizabeth' nono."—Public Record Office.

⁵ "Robto de Grey avunculo et px hered Thome de Grey fil et hered Thome de Grey Armigi defuncti."—Deed at Marton: Court of Wards and Liveries, 16th June, 9th Elizabeth.

⁶ See note, supra.

in Bunwell, Merton, Thompson, Great Ellingham, Beechamwell, and Little Cornerd,⁷ and adds this remark, "Somme totall of my poor estate, besides Harriotts (heriots), and amercimentes (fines) of my mannō of Baynyards (in Bunwell), w^{ch} I pray God to blesse and cōtinue to my posteritye, is p annum de claro (clear) 904*li*. 7*s*. 9*d*." a considerable income, representing at least ten times as much in our present money. From Robert de Grey's income must, however, be deducted the dower of the Lady Temperance Heydon, which he did not enjoy till her death in 1577.

Robert de Grey was a staunch Catholic, and neither fines, nor confiscations, nor imprisonments could make him conform to the State religion. His wife, probably, was equally staunch, for she came of a Catholic family that suffered much for conscience sake. She was sister of Sir Thomas Lovell of East Harling, and of Robert Lovell of Beechamwell, both of whom were fined and imprisoned for their recusancy.

The first thing that we know about Robert de Grey is, that, as soon as he became owner of his estate, he sued Thomas Grey, Gen., for the possession of some property in Merton.

Decision of the Court of Common Pleas, Easter Term, 8th Elizabeth (1566):—Robert Grey, Arm., by John Kemp his attorney, sues for a messuage with garden, orchard, and forty-six acres of land in Merton, Thompson, and Gryston, claiming this property as part of his inheritance, unjustly detained from him by Thomas Grey, generosus, whose only title was that a certain Hugh Hunt had given him possession

⁷ Lillington is omitted because it had been sold 18th May, 24th Elizabeth (1582), by Robert de Grey; and Lubenham I suppose had been sold also by him, for in 1569 Sir Basil Brooke held it.—Nichols' *History of Leicestershire*, in Hill's *History of Garter Hundred*, p. 139. Lubenham came into the de Grey family by purchase of William Grey from Thomas Baude in 1500.—*Ibid*.

of it thirty years before. Thomas appeared in propria persona, and called a witness, John Howell, who was judged in contempt; and Robert recovered the said property against Thomas. Robert obtained a Queen's brief for recovery of the property, and William Parson, Esq., acting for him on the 15th May last, obtained seizin of the said house and its appurtenances. Decision dated 27th May, 8th Elizabeth (1566).—Deed at Merton Hall.

Robert de Grey held his first court for the manor of Merton Hall in the 10th Elizabeth (1568).^a

Robert de Grey was soon engaged in another lawsuit. It will be remembered that Robert de Grey's nephew, a boy of eleven years of age, had been, as ward of the Crown, married to Elizabeth, who, after her boy-husband's death, married Nicholas Mynne, Esq.

Dr. Jessopp informs me that on the 30th October, 13th Elizabeth, 1571, a great trial was going on between Nicholas Mynne, Arm., and Elizabeth his wife, plaintiff, and Robert de Grey of Merton, Arm., defendant; Mynne and his wife suing for lands in dower, in Merton, &c., which Elizabeth claimed as late wife of Thomas Grey, dec. Robert de Grey, the defendant, pleaded nullity of marriage.

Robert de Grey did not marry till late in life. His marriage settlement, preserved at Merton Hall, is dated 26th August, 16th Elizabeth, 1574. He was then forty-four years old, and had been owner of Merton eight years. The indenture between "Dame Elizabeth Lovell, widowe, late wyfe of S^r Thomas Lovell, Knighte, deceased, and Thomas Lovell, Esquire, her sonne apparante, of thone ptie, and Robert de Graye of Merton Esquire, of thother ptie, witnesseth y^t for & in consideration of a mariage to be holden & solemnized by y^e grace of Almightye God betwene the said

^a "Marton Hall. Curia prima genal' cu' leta Rob'ti de Greye armig'i ib'm tant' die m'curij in festo s'cte fide virginis anno regni Elizabethhe decimo."

Robert de Graye & Anne Lovell, one of y^e daughters of y^e said S^r Thomas & dame Elizabeth on this side the feast of all Saints next cominge after y^e date hereof, if y^e said Anne shall therunto assent & God shall y^e pmitt Trustees, Sir Thomas Cornwallis,⁹ Sir Jhon Sulyarde,¹ Knightes, Thomas Lovell & Robert Kempe,² Esquires, Jhon Graye³ & Edward fludde, Gentlemen Settles the Merton manor and after the death of one dame Temperans,⁴ now wyfe of S^r Xpofer Heydon, Knight, sometime wyfe of Thomas de Graye, Esquire, brother of the sayd Robert deceased one anuytie or yearly rent

⁹ Sir Thomas Cornwallis, eldest son and heir of Sir John Cornwallis of Broome, Suffolk, by Mary his wife, daughter of Edward Sulyard, Esq., was Comptroller of the Household to Queen Mary, and built Broome Hall about 1550.—Page's *Suffolk*, p. 91.

¹ Sir John Sulyarde was descended from a family settled at Wetherden in Suffolk since the 8th Edward IV (1468-9). He was a firm adherent of Queen Mary. His first wife was Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Edmund Bedingfield. His third wife was Alice, daughter of Humphrey Kerville, widow of John Bedingfield and mother of Humphrey Bedingfield, the recusant.—From Page's *Suffolk*, p. 556.

² Probably Robert Kemp of Gissing, Esq., whose second wife was Elizabeth de Grey, Robert de Grey's niece. Robert Kemp died 1594.

³ John Gray, I suppose of the family of Grey of Griston.—See *Vitiation of Harvey, Clarencieux*, 1567.

⁴ Temperance, daughter of Sir Wymonde Carewe, was widow of Thomas de Grey of Merton, elder brother of Robert. (See note, *supra*.) Thomas de Grey died 12th May, 4th Elizabeth (1562), and the widow before the feast of St. Luke, 5th Elizabeth (1563), became the second wife of Sir Christopher Heydon of Beaconsthorpe, Knt., as appears by the heading of the court-roll of that date. "Marton Hall in Marton, curia prima gena'lis cu' leta xpofferi Heidon militis et dñe Tempencie consortis eius . . . die sabbi px post ffin sti luce eunge anno regni Elizabethe dei gra . . . quinto." Temperance died 9th October, 1577 (Blomefield.) Sir Christopher, who had three wives, died 10th December, 1579 (*ib.*), seized of thirty-three manors and nine advowsons. He would have been a valuable prize for the recusant hunters, but he seems fully to have accepted the new form of religion. Further on we find him (22nd August, 1578) associated with the Bishop in the prosecution of his late wife's brother-in-law, Robert de Grey; and he was one of the Norfolk Commissioners for the survey of church goods.—Public Record Office. Exch. Church Goods.

of xxli. . . . out of the manor of Banyard in Bunwell proviso that the sayd Robert de Graye shall not be inforced or required for the making of the sayd assurance to travaile out of y^e countie of Norfolke saving only onces to London. . . . If Anne survives her husband she is to have wood and underwood for plough boote, carte boote, hedge boote, fire boote (the old word for profit, or something which makes up a deficiency, and which still survives in our 'bootless,' and 'to boot') and she is to provide for Robert's aunt Mary Graye for her and her mayd 3vaunt good and sufficient meate, drinke, and lodginge to be hadd w^hin y^e now mansion Howse of y^e sayd Robert at M'ton"

The deed is signed by Elysabeth Lovell and Thomas Lovell. Witnesses, Robt. Lovell, George Monoux,⁵ ffrauncys Lovell.

So far as I know the only issue of this marriage was one son, who afterwards became Sir William de Grey of Merton, Knight.

Robert de Grey, as we have seen, succeeded to the family estates in 1566, the 8th of Elizabeth, and married in the 16th Elizabeth (1574). For a long time, as far as we know, he continued without let or hinderance in the Catholic religion.

Those who have not seen the interesting story of the Norfolk recusants, as narrated by Dr. Jessopp in his *One Generation of a Norfolk House*, should read this extract concerning Robert de Grey, taken by Dr. Jessopp from the Cotton MSS.

22 Aug. 1578. "This daye there appeared before their Lordships as warned by the Sheriffe of Norff. . . . Robert de Grey de Martin, Esq̃. [and four other Norfolk gentlemen]. And being sev'ally called one by one, the Bishoppe of the Diocesse⁶ and S^r Christopher Heydon

⁵ George Monoux, there is little doubt, was of the family of Monoux of Walthamstowe in Essex.—See *Visitation of Essex*, Harl. Soc. Pub.

⁶ Edmund Freake, Bishop of Norwich 1575—1584.

and S^r Willm. Butts,⁷ Knights, being pⁿt, they were particularly charged that contrary to all good Lawes and orders and against the dutie of good subjects they refused to come to the Churche at the tymes of prayer, Sermons, and other Devine s^rvices. Ev^y one of them confessed y^t it was true that they did absent themselves from the Churche as aforesaid. And being demaunded by their Lordships whither they wold not be contented to conforme themselves to order, and like good subjects to come to the Church, ev^y one of them likewise refused so to do, uppon w^{ch} their refusall they were commanded to stand apart. . . . And where it appeared that . . . Rob^t de Grey [and three others] had not bene aforetyme dealt with by the B. in that case they foure being called altogether before their Lordships were ordered that they shold ev^y of them enter into bonds to her Ma^{ties} use in 200^{li} a peece, that they shold not depart from their lodgings appoynted unto them in the Citty of Norwich and that they shold once ev^y day as often as they shalbe sent conferre wth the L. B. or such as he shall appoynt for their better instructions to bring them to conformitye."—Dr. Jessopp's *One Generation of a Norfolk House*, p. 74.

Thus it seems that it was in the 20th year of Elizabeth's reign⁸ (1578) that Robert de Grey was first proceeded against as a recusant.

In the 23rd Elizabeth (1581), an Act of Parliament was passed under which every person who said mass forfeited two hundred marks and was imprisoned for one year; every person who willingly heard mass forfeited one hundred marks, with imprisonment for the same term (23rd Eliz. c. i. sec. 4); and every person above the age of sixteen who did not go to church forfeited £20 a month (sec. 5), with imprisonment in default of payment after three months till the debt was paid (sec. 11.)

⁷ Sir William Butts was of Thornage, near Holt. He was High Sheriff 1563, ob. 3rd Sept. 1583, s. p.—*Norfolk Visitation*, i., p. 343. He was descended from Sir William Butts, the eminent physician and the great friend to Archbishop Cranmer and the Reformation.—Blomefield, iii. 596, and vii. 164. Queen Elizabeth in her progress in 1578 through Norfolk went to Thornage, Sir William Butts', from Baconsthorpe, Sir Christopher Heidon.—Blomefield, vi. 178.

⁸ Elizabeth's regnal years began on November 17th.

In the 24th Elizabeth (1582), Robert de Grey "stoode indetted unto the late Queene in the some of two hundreth and twentie poundes (*i.e.* £20 per month) for that the sayd Robte did not repayre to any Church, Chappell, or usuall place of comon prayer by the space of eleaven monethes, that is to say betwene the first day of August in the three and twentieth yere of the raigne of the late Queene Elizabeth and the three and twentieth day of July in the fower and twentieth yere of the rayne of the sayd late Queene."—Deed of Discharge at Merton Hall, 21st July, 2nd James I. (1604).

In the 24th Elizabeth Robert de Grey sold his manor of Lillington to Nicholas Mynne, Esq., of Little Walsingham. Nicholas and Elizabeth his wife,—who, as we have seen, was widow of the boy Thomas de Grey, Robert's nephew,—were to extinguish dower. The conveyance is endorsed with this note: "The sayle of the mannor of Lillington in Warwyckshire to Nicholas Mynn, being forced to it by the unconscionably [*sic*] certyfycate of the byshoppe."—Deed at Merton Hall, 18th May, 24th Elizabeth. Lillington had been in the de Grey family for several generations; for in the above deed of conveyance it is said to be "late Thomas Grey's, brother of the said Robert, and before that Edmunde Grey's, father of the said Robert, and sumtyme Thomas Grey's, grandfather of the said Robert." Lillington also belonged to the father of the last-named Thomas, for Dugdale in his *Warwickshire*, p. 203, says that "William Grey, Esq^r., dyed seized 10 Hen. VII. (1494-5) of a mannour there."

In the 25th Elizabeth, June 19th, 1583, and nine years after his marriage, Robert de Grey's only son and heir, William, was born.

In the 25th Elizabeth (1583) "Robte de Grey did likewise stand indetted . . . in the some of two hundreth poundes for that he did not repayre to any Church, Chappell, or usuall place of comon prayer by the space of tenne monethes, that

is to say betwene the first day of August in the fower and twentieth yere of the raigne of the sayd late Queene and the eight day of July in the five and twentieth yere."—Deed of Discharge, 21st July, 2nd James I. In the 26th Eliz. (1584) he stood likewise indebted in the sums of £160 and £80.—*Ibid.*

In the 26th Elizabeth, Robert Grey, Arm., and other recusant gentlemen were ordered to be kept in jail "till they have paid the whole sums of money whereof they have been before convicted, as also the sums whereof they be convicted at these Assizes."—From *Sessions' Book*, Norfolk; quoted by Dr. Jessopp in *One Generation of a Norfolk House*, p. 192.

And further, in October, 1588, 30th Elizabeth, Robert Graye and other recusant gentlemen, prisoners in the jail at Norwich, "because they do much harm and infect the country by the liberty which they enjoy there," were ordered to be removed to Wisbech.

Dr. Jessopp, in a note to chapter iii. of the *Life of the Jesuit Father, John Gerard*, by Morris, (p. 47)—a book which gives a graphic account of the cruel treatment to which the Roman Catholics in England were exposed in Elizabeth's reign,—says that this order for the removal of the recusants to Wisbech, was, he believes, never executed; for the prisoners were at Norwich in the castle so late as the 5th April, 1590 (32nd Elizabeth). That Robert de Grey was in prison up to the 6th April, 29th Elizabeth, seems probable also from the fact that he was fined up to that time, every year after the passing of the Act 23rd Elizabeth, for not attending any place of [Protestant] worship; no mention being made of his parish church, which, after the 40th Elizabeth (1597-8), when he was—as I believe—residing at Merton, is always mentioned.

The recusant gentlemen in Norwich Castle appear to have had a common room and common table (*Life of Father Gerard*, page 47), and "they had liberty, occasionally, to go out on business, giving bail for their re-appearance."—*Ibid.*

In the *Harleian MSS.*, vol. cclx., p. 5, we have the rules for the guidance of the jailor of Wisbech Castle as to the custody of the recusants. It is probable that in Norwich Castle the rules were similar, and if so the recusant gentlemen had no easy life. One of the rules is as follows: [the jailor] "shall not suffer the said recusantes to have anie conference betwene themselves but at their ordinarie meales, and at that tyme there shall be no speache of anie matters that are in controversie for religion."

The following document, recently discovered amongst the Merton muniments, relates chiefly to the time when Robert de Grey was confined in Norwich Castle. It seems to have been written by some friend or partisan of Sir William de Grey, Knt., of Merton, son and heir of Robert, early in the reign of James I., to place on record the treatment to which Robert de Grey had been subjected by Thomas Felton, an officer appointed by the Government to prosecute commissions for ascertaining the value of the lands and goods of recusants. The handwriting is very minute (not more than one-twentieth of an inch in height), though perfectly clear.

Concerning the underhand dealing of felton [see Appendix A] wth the late Queene, by whome he was put in truste as also his turbulent vexation of her subiect^{es} and his Ma^{ties} that were conformable.

Mr. felton aboute the xxvth yere ⁹ of the late Queene being desirous

⁹ Not, I think, till after the 28th year (1584), as stated further on in this document; for in that year John Fortescue farmed the manor of Caxtons of Robert de Grey, as Francis Woodhouse did afterwards the Merton and Ellingham manors, no doubt to save it, if possible, from falling into the hands of the Government. The words of the heading of the manor roll are as follows:—

Maner m	} Curia Joh'is ffortescewe Armigi' firmarij Robt'i de Graye
Caustons	
al's Caxtons.	

Armig'i Manij sui pd'ti ib'm tent die videlt vicesimo
 tertio die Maij anno regni dn'e Elizabeth dai gra' angl
 franc and hib'nie regine fidei defensoris, &c., vicesimo octavo.

From the 28th year of Elizabeth, when John Fortescue farmed Caxtons, up to the 40th year (1598), the records of the manor courts are wanting. Probably Felton held the manor. In the 40th year Robert de Grey seems to have got it back into his own hands, for the heading of the roll is as follows:—

or rather importunate to hyer the mannour¹ of Cawsones [see Appendix B] in Suff., belonging to one Robt. de Gray a recusant, the same adioyning to a mannour of feltons called Peacock Hall [see Appendix C] since solde awaie by him, which by the mediacion of freindez he obtayned of the said Robt. de Gray a lease for certeine yeares at the yerely rent of 80*li*. and fyne of 80*li*. But shortly after Mr. felton [haveing the generall prosecuting in the seizure of recusantes landes and goodes, did (takeinge advantage of the tyme) to benefit himselfe] cunningly come to the said Robert de Graie (then being a prisoner in Norwich for his recusancy) and desired him to take his lease agayne, for it was so hard a peniworth that he coulde doe no good of it, to the intent (as afterward it fell out) he mighte worke his entended and premeditated purpose. The said Robert de Grey refused to take it for so muche as he was a prisoner and coulde not in such Scarborrowe warninge [no warning or very short warning] provide himselfe of a fit fermour for it. This answer was as he desired ffor so soone as his comission was sealed for the prosecuting of recusantes he caused this land formerly hyred of the recusant by the yerely rent of lxxx*li*. and lxxx*li*. fyne to be founde by Inquisicion to the late Queene but at xxiii*li*. a yere² or thereabouts and at that rate set other men to get a lease of it for himselfe. This mannour of Cawsones being nowe lett, and mighte have bin then let for cxi*li*. by yere which Mr. felton enioyed many yeres and thereby defeated [defrauded] the Queene of a 100*li*. yerely he being put in truste, and receiving a stypend of c*li*. a yere of her late *Majestie* for such service. But Mr. felton not herewith the contented, felled tymber and underwoodes of the said Robert de Grey's to the value of v*li*. as by deposicōns of recorde maie appeare. Whereupon Robt. de Grey complayned to the late Lord Treasurer³ of the

Man'm de Caustons	}	Curia Rob'ti Graye Armigi' manerij sui pd'ti ib'm
al's Cakstons in		tent die lune videlt vicesimo quinto die Septembris
Corn., Suff.	}	anno regni dn'e Elizabeth quadragesimo.

This may have been the time referred to further on in this document, "when all Felton's leases were revoked."

¹ The italics represent the letters that are omitted, i.e., the contractions, in the original document.

² In a paper at Merton Hall, in Sir William de Grey's handwriting, I find that the value of his "farms and rentes" of his manor of Caxtons in Cornard was in 1624 (i.e., about forty years after the time when it was let to Felton at £22) £163. 7*s*. 9*d*.

³ The famous William Cecil, Lord Burghley, who was appointed Lord High Treasurer in 1572, and who held the office (nearly the same as that of our Prime Minister) till his death in 1598.

abuse offered by felton to her Ma^{ie} and him. And the late Lord *Treasurer* (as maie appeare vnder his hand) directed his *lettres* to Sir William Woodehowse and others in Norff., and to S^r William Waldegraffe⁴ and others in Suff., for the viewinge of Spoyles of woodes, decayinge of howses, and other great extremities complayned of by the said Ro. de Grey, w^{ch} being viewed by them was certefied to be moste true. Whereupon the late Lo. T^{fer} caused all Felton's leases to be revoked, as one vnworthie thereof for his vniuste and vnconscionable *Corses* ag^{ts} the said Ro. de Grey, as maie appere vnder his Lo^{rs} hand. It being Felton's *cores* alwaies to rack such landes as were in the recusantes handes But to conceale the true value of such landes as were in his owne handes suggesting that it was no more worth then that he paid to the Q. the truthe of which never came to lighte vntill such tyme as it pleased his gracious Ma^{ie} to restooore vnto William de Grey the Land which nowe vpon the letting of it appeares that he defeated the Q. in one Mannour in Suffolk of a c^{li} yerely. He also caused Browne one of his Complices to take awaie lynnyn conveyed to a poore woeman's howse for safty worth 200*li*. which was of the onely workinge of the said William de Grey's mother⁵ in her young tyme, which S^r Arthur Hevingham⁶ in his shrevalty received (and as for as many be found)⁷ never aunswered *jd.* into the Exchequer. By which infinit vexacions continewinge from y^r xxvijth yere (1556) of the late Queene vntill the xliijth yere (1601) was lyke to haue bin the vtter

⁴ Sir William Waldegrave was representative of a family of much importance, settled since the reign of Edward III. at Smallbridge manor in Bures, in the immediate neighbourhood of Robert de Grey's Cornard estate. Sir William married first, Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Thomas Mildmay, and secondly, Grisild, relict of Sir Thomas Rivet. He was knighted 1576. He died 1st August, 1613, and was buried at Bures, leaving five sons and four daughters.—From a paper in *Suffolk Archaeology* on the Waldegrave Family, by E. M. Dewing, Esq.

⁵ Sir William de Grey's mother was Anne, daughter of Sir Thomas Lovell of East Harling.

⁶ Sir Arthur Heveningham was High Sheriff of Norfolk in the 24th year of Elizabeth, and again in her last year. This family was of Ketteringham, Norf., and Heveningham, Suff. Sir Arthur married Mary, daughter of — Hanchet, of an ancient Hertfordshire family. He received knighthood from King James, 2nd January, 1617. He died 8th October, 1630, and lies buried near his wife in the chancel at Ketteringham.—Suckling's *Suffolk*, ii., 389.

⁷ Qy. as far as may be found.

vndoeinge of Robt. de Grey and his whole family.⁸ In the xliij^a yere of the said late Q. Robt. de Grey dyed, and left^e his sonne William de Grey of y^e age of 18 yeres a warde by w^{ch} wardship the late Q. enioyed mooste of his lands saving some 240*li*. a yere w^{ch} the said Robt. de Grey demised for y^e educacion of his sonne in his minority and payment of his debtes and legacies. Notwithstanding Felton continew^g his former mallice to the sonne for his father's sake (although dead) and fyndyng that his sonne William de Grey went to Church: whereby he coulde get no advantage of him for matter of recusancy ffelton intendinge to make him the firste president: Caused vpon a meere suggestion the foresaid landes of 240*li*. a yere demised for the Causes abovesaid to be extended [valued] at 126*li*. yearly Rent to the intent (as afterward it fell out) he mighte get a lease thereof to himselfe at that underrate, w^{ch} extent [valuation] was levyed vppon his suggestion of a supposed debte contrary to the presidentes of Gage, Westby, Danyell, Yaxley remayning of Record discharged in the lyke case by plea, by Mr. Attorney generall⁹ confession.

Whereupon William de Grey humbly praied the courte of Exchequer vntill it were certainly knowne whether it were a debte or no, and that if it doe fall out to be a debte (w^{ch} Justice Walmesley¹ at the hearing of the cause did deliuer to be no debte according as he tooke the true meaninge of the statute to be) he mighte be preferred to have a lease of his owne landes being conformable before any other at such rate as it was extended at, whereupon the nowe Lord Treasurer² did pronounce in open courte that it was y^e Q. pleasure William de Grey being conformable shold have a lease of his owne landes before any other. Neverthelesse in y^e Vacacion ffelton procured a lease of the said mannours worth 240*li*. a yere at 126*li*. yerely rent: Therevpon William de Grey in this greate extremity offered to paie

⁸ That Robert de Grey was not, like many a Catholic country gentleman, ruined by the recusant persecutions, seems to have been due, not to the leniency of the Government, but to his own persistent determination to evade or refuse, whenever possible, the demands of the law.

⁹ Probably Sir Edward Coke, who held the office from his appointment, 10th April, 1594, till he was made Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, 30th June, 1606.

¹ Mr. Justice Walmesley was made a Judge of the Common Pleas 10th May, 1589. On the accession of James he was reappointed and knighted. He died 26th November, 1612, and was buried at Blackburn in Lancashire.

² Thomas Sackville, Lord Buckhurst, was appointed Lord Treasurer on the death of Burghley, and held the office till his death in 1608.

y^e imposed debte by 200*li*. a yere and coulde not have it, ffelton by this vniuste graunte after his father's death felled all his woodes of theise two mannours, and coulde haue no redresse: enioyed the landes 4 yeres, and thereby gayned or mighte have gayned 500*li*. over and beside y^e yerely rent to the Q. the defendinge of w^{ch} vnconscionable suite lasting 4 yeres cost William de Grey 500*li*. and better besydes the losse of his land for 4 yeres, which comes to 900*li*. and more. Soe that one waie or other it coste him more then the imposed debte it selfe being at the first 1500*li*. and lxxx*li*. whereof paid by extent to the late Q. and the Kinges Ma^{tie} 400*li*. and xl. besyde that ffelton gayned which was rather more, w^{ch} thinges being considered doth shew that ffelton neither respected religion conformity nor y^e benefit of the Q. no farder then it mighte be profitable for himselfe, which vniuste courses of ffelton as it is vnaunswereable in this owne particuler, So many others felte it in this Kingdome to the Ruwine of their Howses, and wastes of theire inheritaunce, especially in this particuler of William de Grey. But that his gracious Ma^{tie} takeing mercy of him in his princely comiseracōn was pleased to pardon him.

In the 27th Eliz. (1585) "Robte de Grey did likewise stand indetted unto the late Queene in the some of one hundreth and threescore poundes for that he did not repayre to any Church Chapell or other usuall place of comōn prayer by the space of eight monethes (videlt.) from the seaven and twentieth day of July in the sixe and twentieth yere of the raigne of the sayd late Queene until the thirtieth day of March in the seaven and twentieth yeare."—Deed of Discharge, 21st July, 2nd James. In the same year Robert de Grey stood likewise indebted to the Queen in the sum of £60, for the same reasons.—*Ibid*.

In the 28th Elizabeth (1586), Robert de Grey, like many other recusant gentlemen and ladies, made an offer to the government of an annual payment in lieu of fines. His first offer is thus recorded:—"Public Record Office, Dom., Eliz., vol. 188. The names of those principall recusantes w^{ch} have yealded their consentes to paie yearly to her Ma^{ties} vse in y^e excheqr the severall soomes undermençoned, viz. :—Robt de Grey of Merton, Esq^r., viij*li*. vjs. viij*d*."

A second offer is in the same volume. It is stated that the Commissioners, Henry Lord Crumwell, and other justices of Norfolk, called before them the principal recusants and received "their severall offers or excuses." These documents are written and signed by the recusants themselves, and therefore are especially interesting. Robert de Grey's answer is as follows, and forms, so far as I know, the only specimen existing of his handwriting and signature:—

"The vi of Aprell in the xxviiij yeare of Quenes Maityes Reygne.

"I doe most humbly desyer her Maitye to accepte of twentye Markes a yeere to be payd yearely vnto her receypte of hyr Maities hyghness exchequer & duryng the tyme that I shall not come vnto the Church.

"By me Robert de Grey."

This offer of £13. 6s. 8d. was no doubt refused, for in the same year (28th Elizabeth) Robert de Grey "stood likewise indebted in the sum of £280 for that he did not repayre to any church," &c.

In the 29th Elizabeth (1587), he stood likewise indebted in the sum of £60 for the same reasons. And in the same year he stood likewise indebted in the sum of £120, for that he did not make submission and become conformable.

In the 29th Elizabeth, a still more stringent Act was passed against recusants, by which, under section 4, every one not repairing to church and not paying the fine of £20 a month, forfeited to the Queen all his goods, and also two parts of the profits of his lands, tenements, hereditaments, leases, and farms, leaving the third part only for the maintenance and relief of the offender, his wife, children, and family; and by an Act of the 35th Elizabeth (1593), under section 1, persons obstinately refusing to go to the church were to be committed to prison, there to remain without bail till they conformed; and under section 2, no popish recusant could go above five miles from his home without

forfeiting all his goods and chattels, and all his lands and tenements for life.

From the 28th till the 30th Elizabeth the courts of the manor of Merton were held in Robert de Grey's name.

From the 30th till the 40th years of Elizabeth there is no mention, in the Deed of Discharge, of any fines owed by Robert de Grey. He was in Norwich jail according to Dr. Jessopp (*ut supra*) up to the 5th April, 33rd Elizabeth (1591), and it is probable that from the time he left Norwich until the 40th Elizabeth, he was in prison in London, forfeiting, according to the Act 29th Elizabeth, all his goods and chattels, and two parts of the profits of his estates. In the Record Office, in vol. 251, Dom., Elizabeth, n. 53, amongst the sums paid by Norfolk recusants are these entries: "x^{mo} Martij, 1594, Robto Gray lix*li*. iiij*s*. ix*d*., and iiij*li*."; and among those paid by Suffolk recusants is this, "Robto Grey xj*li*. viij*s*. x*d*. ob." Probably these were payments on account of some portions of the profits of the estates forfeited to the Queen. Then, too, in the *Recusant Rolls*, 38th Elizabeth (1596), there is an entry, the substance of which is as follows: "Robert de Grey, late of Merton, Esq., owed the Queen x*li*s. for the price of the value of the goods and chattels of the same Robert on account of his recusancy which the sheriff paid to the Exchequer." The smallness of the sum, 40 shillings, may be accounted for by previous seizures under the Act 29th Elizabeth.

As to Robert de Grey's having been imprisoned in London from the time he left Norwich jail till the 40th Elizabeth, there is this bit of evidence in a document dated 38th Elizabeth (1596), and called "A trewe certificat of Popishe Recusants their estate, degree, valew in Lyvelehood, the special place of ther aboade, w^{ch} of them be howsholders, who vagrante or ffugityves &c. :—

"Martyn. Ann Graye the wyffe of Rob't Graye esquier; the

said Rob't imprysoned in London, his Lyvinge woorth three hundreth markes by yeare, the Quenes Ma^{tye} is answered two p'tes therof, his wife keapeth house." ³ As we know within a little what Robert de Grey's estates were worth, it is plain that every possible evasion of the law must have been practised in order to arrive at so low a value as £200.

From the 34th to the 39th Elizabeth, as I find from the Rolls of Robert de Grey's manors of Merton Hall⁴ and Bury⁵ Hall in Ellingham, Francis Woodhouse farmed both of these manors. He probably did so in Robert de Grey's interest, and to prevent, if possible, their falling into the hands of the Queen, under the Act passed in her 29th year. Dr. Jessopp says "that the recusants resorted to all sorts of devices in order to evade the cruel pressure of the wicked laws. Francis Woodhouse of Breccles was not himself a recusant, though his wife was a very stubborn and consistent one, and his own sympathies were undoubtedly that way. He was one of

³ *East Anglian*, ii. 159.

⁴ The words of the heading of the court of the 34th Eliz. (1592) are as follows:
 "Morton hall } Cur gena'lis ffanciſci Woodhowſe armig firmar ibm cu' leta
 in Marton } ibm' tent die Sabbati vi't ſeptimo die Octobris anno regni dñe
 fire Elizabete tricesimo quarto."

It is worthy of mention that there are in the Merton muniment room rolls of the manors of Merton Hall, of Bury Hall in Ellingham, of Caxtons in Cornerd, of Butters Hall and the College Manor in Thompson, of Campseies Mortimers and Marhams in Tottington, and of some other manors formerly in the possession of the de Grey family. The Merton series is a fine one, beginning with the 1st Edw. III. (1327), and ending with the 35th Charles II. (1683). The Caxton series begins with the 4th Edward I. (1276). It is very incomplete.

⁵ The manor of Bury Hall in Ellingham is stated by Blomefield to have come to the de Grey family by the marriage, about 1450, of William de Grey with Christian, daughter and heir of John Manning. I am, however, informed by the Rev. C. R. Manning that the manor belonged to John Manning's elder brother, and descended in his family; and this is corroborated by a document at Merton, in which Robert de Grey states that it was conveyed (by purchase probably) to Thomas de Grey the priest, the grandfather of Robert, and grandson of William, who married Christian Manning, by Thomas Manning.

the people whom the Romish party described as 'scismatics'⁶ as distinct from heretics, i.e., men who 'kept their church,' and so 'skulked behind the law,' as Dryden says."

Some depositions in the Public Record Office clearly prove that the Government suspected connivance between Francis Woodhouse and Robert de Grey. It seems that, notwithstanding an agreement with, or lease to Woodhouse, the profits of two of the Norfolk woods of Robert de Grey were sold by the Queen to Thomas Felton and Richard Brewster. Yet it was suspected that Francis Woodhouse and Robert de Grey continued to derive profits from the woods. If we are to believe the evidence, they certainly hindered as much as they could the Government lessees, and one of these deposes that he "could gett noe laborers to fell and carrie away the said wood," and that "Mr. Graie [who must have been occasionally out of prison on bail] did forbid to fell the same, vsinge some threateninge speache."

The Government therefore ordered a commission for the purpose of finding out the facts concerning the lands and woods, and their management and profits, also concerning the dealings of Francis Woodhouse and Robert de Grey therewith, and those of Felton and Brewster.

The depositions were taken at Wymondham in Norfolk, 4th January, 36th Elizabeth (1594).

Exchequer, Q. R., Depositions by Commission, Hillary, Ao. 36th Elizabeth, No. 7.

Interrogatories to be mynistrd by Richarde Brewster and Thomas felton gent. on the parte and behalfe of our soſaigne Ladie the Queene against ffraunces Wo[od]howse and others concerninge the landes and woodes of Robarte de Greye.

1. Item whether doe yow knowe or haue yow herd how manye acres of woodes were solde by her ma^{ty} to one Richard Brewster and

⁶ "A scismatic, that is, a Catholic by conviction, but conforming externally to the state religion."—*Life of Father John Gerard*, p. 335.

Thomas ffelton or to either of them, of the woodes of Robt de Graye of Marten in the Countie of Norff gen^t, and to whose use were the said woodes felled, taken, and carried away, and whether was the same done by the consent meanes or p^{er}curem of ffrances Woodhouse of Brekeles in the Countie of Norff gen^t or of the said Robt de Graye of Marten or the assignes of them or anie of them yea or noe?

2. Item whether doe yow knowe or haue yo^r hearde that the said ffrances Woodhouse is not onely a favourer of the said M^r Graye and [others of his secte⁷] but also a faithfull dealer supposed in and for M^r Graye in the behalfe of all his business against M^r ffelton and M^r Brewster, and that the said Woodhowse dothe p^{ro}mitt and suffer all his interest righte and tytle supposed to be in him by the righte and interest of one William Huckerbye to be onelye Converted in deede and truthe to the name vse and behoofe of the said Robt de Greye or his assignes yea or noe?

4. Item whether doe yow knowe or haue yo^r herde that since her Ma^{ty} sale of the said woodes to the said M^r ffelton and M^r Brewster the said ffelton and Brewster did by vertue thereof did (*sic*) Bargaine and sell all the said p^{ro}mises to one John Croche and whether since that tyme hathe the said ffrances Woodhowse or Rbt de Greye and there assignes often tymes disturbed molested and forefended [prevented] the said John Croch his servauntes deputies and assignes from the felling and carrying away of the said woodes or some pte thereof yea or noe?

Signed, Thomas Crumwell. Edw. Barthlett.

Interrogatoryes to be mynist^{ed} on the ptye and behalfe of ffrances Woodhowse esquire Defendant, against Rychard Brewster and Thomas ffelton gen^t compleynants.

1. Imprimis whether do yo^r knowe ffrances Woodhowse esquire, and Rychard Brewster and Tho[mas] ffelton gen^t, and whether do yo^r knowe Robt de Graye esquire yea or noe?

3. Itm whether hathe the said Robt de Graye one manno^r comonlye called the manno^r of Banyardes,⁸ and one woode adioyninge to the scyte of the said manno^r, comonlye called Banyardes woode . . . ?

⁷ Erased.

⁸ Baynard's Manor in Bunwell or Haddeston—which, according to Blomefield, is the ancient name of Bunwell—was part of the family estate of the de Greys, having, with Merton, come into their possession upon the

Here follow questions respecting the woods of Robert de Grey, their names, their situations, their management, and profits.

12. Itm whether dyd yo^r buye, fell, cutt downe or carye awaye anye hoppe pooles, charcoole, hoopes, or anye other woode or vnderwoode, in anye of the said woodes, or in the woode next adioyninge to the nowe dwellinge howse of Edmunde Graye, gent., and yf yo^r dyd, whether dyd the said ffrances Woodhowse, or anye other for him molest, let, disturbe or trouble the said felton and Brewster and whether dyd the said ffrances peure and cause yo^r to buye anye woodes vnderwoodes or hirdles in the said woode called Wayland woode, for him selfe, or for anye other, what dyd yo^r buye, of whom dyd yo^r buye the same And what dyd yo^r paye for the same as yo^r Remember ?

Signed, Thomas Crumwell. Edw. Barthlett.

marriage, about A.D. 1340, of their ancestor with Isabel Baynard, in whose family it had been since the Conquest. It seems by these depositions that Edmund de Grey, next brother to Robert, lived at the manor-house, and hired, at any rate, part of the land, for he says in his evidence that he "did take a lease of the feed of y^e wood wth other groundes adioyninge." This Edmund is called in a MS. Pedigree at Merton lord of Baynards manor in Bunwell; but this cannot be, as he himself in his evidence says that "M^r Rob't Graie hath a mannor w^{ch} lyeth in Haddeston called by the name of y^e mannor of Banniardes." The discrepancy may probably be accounted for by what is stated in Robert de Grey's inquisitio post mortem, viz., that Robert had leased Baynards manor (except the wood) to his brother Edmund and his wife Mary, and to the survivor of them, and to Edmund's heirs male, for £21 a year, so that Edmund might be styled lord of the manor, though he was not really so. As Edmund's only son had died, the manor reverted on Edmund's death to Robert's heir, Sir William. No doubt the lease was granted by Robert to his brother, when the persecution of the recusants began, to prevent, if possible, the manor from falling into the hands of the Queen. Edmund de Grey is said to have married Mary, daughter of — Jernegan, and to have had by her one son, who died 1st Ed. VI. (1547), and four daughters: Elizabeth, married to Edward Marsham of Melton, Esq.; Anne, married to George Pierson of London; Eleanor, married to John Alder; and Margaret unmarried.—MS. Pedigree at Merton.

Baynards manor continued in the de Grey family till A.D. 1720, when it was sold by Thomas de Grey, father of the first Lord Walsingham, to John Buxton of Earsham, Esq., in whose family it still continues, Sir Robert J. Buxton of Shadwell Court, Bart., being the present owner.

Answers on behalf of the Complainants.

JOHN CROTCHE, of ffoxlye, in the countie of Norff', yoman, of the age of ffyftye and eight yeares or thereabout, sworne and examined saithe that there was sould by the Queenes Ma^{tie} to the Comp^{tes} ... thirty and sixe acres of wood of M^r Graies called Waylond Wood ... who after sould the same to this deponant and that the said wood was felled to this deponantes vse and that afterwarde a great pte of the wood wh^{ch} was felled was imbeselled and carryed awaye from this deponant, and that the same was so done as this deponant thincketh in the right and Title of M^r Graie, for that M^r Graie and his s'unts did forbid this deponant and his assignes from the same And ffurther this deponant saithe that the said compl^{tes} did also buy of her Ma^{tie} lxxvj acres two roods and xxvj pearches in Bunwell, beinge pcell of a wood which this deponant also bought att the felling wherof M^r Edmond Graye and a s'uant of the defendant did forbid this deponant

Ex pte Defendentis.

JOHN DOVER⁹ sworne and examined. To the seaventhe [question] he saithe that he knoweth a wood called Waylond wood w^{ch} wood as he hath hearde comonlye reported lyeth in Watton, and he knoweth that the same wood ys the auneyent inherytance of the said Robt de Graye to w^{ch} wood there are other woodes adioyninge whereof one as he thincketh ys called mountneis and sometimes belonged to one mountney as he hath hard, one other ys called the nabbe w^{ch} belongeth to the said M^r Graie w^{ch} said wood called the nabbe was pcell of the late dissolved Colledge of Tompson and lately purchased by one of the auncestors of the said M^r Graye, but howe long sythence he knoweth not.

EDMUND GRAIE, of the pishe nowe called Bunwell, in y^e countie of Norff, gent, of the age of ffyfty & nyne yeares or thereaboutes sworne and examined saythe he hath dwelt in Haddeston beinge an Hamlett w^{thin} y^e said pish by y^e space of theise Twelve yeares or thereaboutes To the Thred Inrogatorye he saythe y^t y^e said Robt Graie hath a mannor w^{ch} lyeth in Haddeston aforesaid called by the name of y^e mannor of Banniardes & hath also a wood adioying and y^t y^t y^e Three hundreth yeares past synce his auncestours ffirst hadd the same To the vijth and viijth [questions] he saythe y^t he knoweth a wood of the said Robt Graye lying in Watton called Waylond Wood w^{ch} ys pcell of the auneyent

⁹ A John Dover was seneschal of the manor of Merton for Robert de Grey.

enherytance of y^e said Robt de Graye and that there are Two other woodes adioyning to y^e same wood y^e one called Mountneyes Wood belonging to S^r Edward More in y^e right of his wife¹ and y^e other ys called y^e nabbe and belongeth to y^e said Robt de Graie both w^{ch} woodes are devided from y^e said wood called Waylond [Appendix D.] wth greate ditches, and y^e y^e said wood called y^e nabbe was latelye purchased by y^e ffather of the said Robt de Graye, being heretofore pcell of y^e dissolved colledge of Tompeon

THOMAS HARDYE, of Maxh'm [P Marham] in the Countie of Norff', gent., of the age of liij¹/₂ yeares or thereabouts saythe y^t there ys a Wood adioyninge to y^e said Waylond Wood w^{ch} belongeth not to y^e said M^r Graie w^{ch} ys pcell of the mann^r of Threpton [Threxton] and occupied by one Edward Gooffe of Threpton aforesaid

ROB'T TEBBOLD of Gerston [Griston] in the countie of Norff', yeoman, of the age of xxxix yeares or therabouts sayth y^t the assignes of the compl^{te} have caused all y^e pte of Waylond Wood to be cutt downe w^{ch} was assigned out for y^e Quenes Ma^{ty} as Wiggett w^{ch} was assigne ffor Crotche tould to this deponant whereof this deponant bought halfe an acre and other ptes thereof was sould by diſse other psons whose names weare to longe to recyte, some by the acre, some converted to Coles,² some to Hurdles, some to Sparres, some to Hoppepooles and some to diſse other vses, and a greate pte was stolen away by the poore folkes of the Country.

The above extracts form only a very small part of the evidence taken. Crotch, the lessee of Felton and Brewster, testifies that he was hindered and robbed by Francis Woodhouse and Robert de Grey, and lost £30 and twenty marks by his bargain. The witnesses for the defendants say, on the other hand, that neither Mr. Woodhouse nor Mr. de Grey hindered the Crown lessees or their sub-lessee Crotch, or took any of their wood away.

¹ A witness in this commission, Hugh Walter of Gerston, says that she was daughter of Sir Rychard Southwell. Sir Richard had manors, according to Blomefield, in Woodrising, Saham, Threxton, Stanford, Tottington, Scoulton, and Carbrooke. Blomefield, under Tottington, states that Sir Richard left his estates to his daughter and heir, Elizabeth, wife of George Heneage. Perhaps Sir Edward More was her second husband.

² Colestaff, a strong pole, on which men carried a burden between them.—Halliwell.

We know (*ut sup.*) that in the 38th Elizabeth, Robert de Grey was in prison in London. It seems probable that in her 40th year he was released; for in that year the Deed of Discharge shows that he began again to be fined, and now his parish church is mentioned, as if he were residing at Merton. It is likely also that in the same year he had his manor of Merton in his own hands, without the intervention of Francis Woodhouse, whose name last appears in the court of October, 39th Elizabeth. As we have seen, the court of Caxtons manor in the 40th Elizabeth is called the court of Robert de Grey.

I think, too, that about this time, *i.e.*, towards the end of his life, Robert de Grey began to build the present Merton Hall on the site of the old manor-house which he found on succeeding to the property. The old house, though probably well fitted to be a manor-house of a single manor, may have become too small for the estates which had been brought into the family by marriages and purchases. There was, too, at this time throughout England a rage for rebuilding the old manor-houses in the fashionable style, of which Burghley, built in 1577, is perhaps the grandest example; and we cannot wonder that the country gentlemen of those days should be glad to exchange the small windows and low ceilings of their dwellings for the lofty galleries, and rooms lighted by large windows, of the new Elizabethan style.

In favour of the supposition that Robert de Grey began to rebuild Merton Hall are the facts that his initials, R. G., are on two of the old chimnies, and that the style of the house is exactly similar to that of some East Anglian red-brick houses built late in Elizabeth's reign, *e.g.*, Rose Hall, near Beccles, and Seckford Hall, near Woodbridge.

If Robert began the house, he might well have made slow progress, or might have been obliged to discontinue the building, by the confiscation of part of his estates on

account of his recusancy. And Sir William, his son, who was three years two months and twenty days a minor³ and ward to the Crown after his father's death (during which time the Queen enjoyed, as we are told, most of his lands), and who married at the early age of eighteen years and a quarter,⁴ might have put off completing the house his father began, for some years.

In favour of the supposition that Sir William, son of Robert, built the house, are the facts, that there was no difference in style between the late Elizabethan and early Jacobean buildings; that the date 1613 is over the entrance and on the pipe heads; that Sir William speaks in his will of "houses builded" by him; and lastly that Spelman in his *Villare Anglicanum* (p. 161) says, "Hinc per Watton Mercatorium ad Merton itur; quod à lacu nomen habet; decus autem à splendidis œdibus, quas illic nuper extruxit Gulielmus Grey probitate et prosapia eques splendidus." All these facts, however, are consistent with the supposition that Robert de Grey began the house, and that his son finished it many years after, in the style in which it had been begun.

The gate-house or porter's lodge was added in 1620, and has the rococo gables that are so characteristic of the later Jacobean architecture.

On the 16th July, 41st Elizabeth (1599), Robert de Grey stood likewise, *i.e.*, in addition to the debts due up to the 29th Elizabeth—indebted to the Queen in the sum of £140, *i.e.*, for seven months' recusancy, "that is to say in the some of fower score poundes by vertue of the . . . statute 23 Eliz. . . . because he did not repayre to his parishe Church nor to any

³ "Et q'd p'd Willm's tempore capc'ois huius inquisic'ois [*i.e.*, 31st March, 43rd Elizabeth (1601), being one month after his father's death] est etat's septem decim an'or' novem mens'm et vndecim dier'."—From Robert de Grey's inquis. p. m.

⁴ "Will'm Graye Esquier and Anne Calthorpe gent. wer maryed the vijth of October 1601."—*Merton Register*, p. 2.

other Church Chappell or usuall place of comon prayer and their continued (*sic*) during the tyme of comon prayer at any tyme within fower monethes" after 1st October, 40th Elizabeth "and in the some of threescore poundes residue of the sayd some of £140 from the sixteenth day of July," 41st Elizabeth "uppon which day he was convicted untill the eight day of October then next following that is to say for three monethes for that he did not make submission and become conformable" according to Act of 23rd Elizabeth.—Deed of Discharge, 21st July, 2nd James.

In the same year, and only nineteen months before Robert de Grey's death, Chief Justice Popham wrote the following letter—of which a copy is preserved in the Gawdy folio at Merton Hall—about a seminary priest named Monex, who was supposed to be hiding either at Merton or Breccles, and who was no doubt one of the priests that, under various disguises, travelled about among the country houses to celebrate mass for the Catholic gentry. These were obliged to meet together for their religious services under locked doors, and taking every precaution against discovery, the priest being concealed, upon any suspicion of a Government search, in some hiding-place known only to a faithful few; and this was done, not only for the priest's own safety, who, if caught and convicted, was adjudged guilty of high treason and suffered death, but for the sake of those who harboured him; for by the cruel Act 27th Elizabeth, cap. ii. sec. 4, every person who received, relieved, comforted, aided, or maintained any Jesuit, seminary priest, or other priest, was upon conviction adjudged a felon and suffered death. At Breccles Hall is still shown a secret cell, where it is very likely that Monex himself, or at any rate his vestments and books, may have been hidden during his visits to Mr. Woodhouse. In the *Life of Father Gerard* we are told (p. 12) that "a man named Green made a secret place

in Mr. Bentley's house at Lea with a door of free-stone, that no man could ever judge there were any such place, and he maketh all the secret places in recusant houses in that country;" and (p. 23) "they have such privy places to hide their massing trumpery that hardly it can be found."

To the right wo^e my very loving frende S^r Bassingbourne Gaudy Knighte.

With my very hartie commendacions I was enformed ther were two seminary priestes at the Castel of Norwich upon Munday last, at the charge, but knew not of them vntyll they were gone, of both which I have sent you here inclosed a true discription, towching Bruerton I have wrytten to S^r Christopher Heydon^e allready for that he is near him. And for that Monex the first hath his haunte near vnto you, I have thought good to pray you to have a speciall regarde that way about Martyn [Merton] and Breckles^e for the apprehending of him, and such lyke, and being apprehended to commit them to the Gaole wthout bayle, by my direction, and that done to advertise me of yt, wherby I may take order for proceeding with them. And even so I betake [commend] youse to the allmighty. At Thetforde the xxth of July, 1599.

Yo^r loving frende

J. Popham.

In the 42nd Elizabeth (1600) Robert de Grey stood likewise indebted to the Queen in the sum of £160 (Deed of Discharge)—thus being only charged for eight months' recusancy—for the like reasons as in the 41st year.

We now draw near to the end of the story. After twenty-

^e Sir Christopher Heydon of Baconsthorpe, eldest son of William Heydon, Esq., and grandson of Sir Christopher, whose second wife was Temperance, widow of Robert de Grey's elder brother Thomas.

^e These two houses that were to be watched, Merton Hall and Breccles Hall, the residences of Robert de Grey and Francis Woodhouse, were within ten miles of Sir Bassingbourne Gaudy's house at West Harling. In 1599, while, as seems probable, Robert de Grey was building his new house at Merton, Francis Woodhouse was leaving the large house he had built at Breccles for a smaller one in Caston.—See Dr. Jessopp's "History of Breccles Hall," *Norfolk Archaeol.*, viii., p. 311.

three years of persecution Robert de Grey died at Merton, in the 43rd Elizabeth, and was buried there, and the Merton register book has this entry:—

Robert de Graye Esquier was buryed the vij of Marche 1600 [1601 according to our reckoning.]

His wife died nine months before him—

Anne Gray y^e wife of M^r. Robt. Gray Esquier was buryed the xvith of May 1600.—[Merton Register.]

They were both buried in the chancel of Merton Church, as the following inscription on a monument there testifies:—

Hic requiescunt Robertvs de Grey Armigr
qvi obiit 28 Dieⁱ Febr^u Ano dñi 1600 et
Ætat^{is} svæ 70. Ac Anna Vxor eius Filia
Thome Lovell de Harlinge Milit.

Sir William de Grey, however, appears not to have paid much respect to his father's bones, for in 1612, at the archdeacon's visitation of Merton Church, "Willmus Gray, miles," was *notatus* for suffering the grave of his father to be uncovered in the chancel.⁷ It was probably intended to cover the grave with a slab, which was never done. The situation of the grave is not now known.

Robert de Grey's monument—a small and well-proportioned one in the Jacobean style—was placed, thirty-two years after his death, on the south wall of Merton chancel, by his son, as it appears, for after the above inscription, Sir William gives a little sketch of his own family, including the names, marriages, and deaths of his children. The date of the monument is 1632, being the last of Sir William's life, so that he delayed offering this mark of honour to his father's memory as long as possible. Perhaps he was at last stirred up to do it by a clause in his own will, which is as follows:—

"I will the some of ffortye markes shalbe bestowed

⁷ Robert's inq. p. m. says that he died 21st February.

⁸ MS. in the Norwich Archdeaconry Office.

within three yeares after my decease of some monument like unto that my brother Cotton⁹ made for his father at Starston for a remembrance that my selfe & wiffe were there interred, and a guilt sword & spuires to be affyxed to the sayd monument.”¹

This desire of Sir William was never carried out, so that after all he did better for his father than his executors did for him.

The arms on Robert's monument are, Azure, a fess between two chevrons or, for Cornerd, (which arms the de Greys, after succeeding to the Cornerd property, bore instead of their own for many generations) impaling, Argent, a chevron azure between three squirrels sejant gules, for Lovell.

I have searched in vain for the will of Robert de Grey at Norwich and at Somerset House, but a small portion of it is recited in his inquisitio post mortem. The will was made on the 16th January, 1601, *i.e.*, five or six weeks before he died. He gives to his uncle Parrysse² and couzen Phillipp his sonne, his manors of Burye Hall and Cackstones³ in trust for his son William. “If William fortune to dye before he comyth to the age of one & twenty yeares then the said manors are to go to Thomas de Grey⁴ the sonne of Willm de Grey late of Lytle Cornard, and to his

⁹ Thomas Cotton of Starston, Esq., married Eleanor Calthorpe, sister of Sir William de Grey's wife Anne.

¹ From a copy of the probate of Sir William's will, dated 27th October, 1632, at Merton Hall.

² Robert de Grey's wife's mother, the Lady Lovell, was Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Philip Paris of Linton, Cambs. She was buried at East Harling, Ao. 1591.—Blomefield, i., 218, fol. ed.

³ The Crown leased these manors nevertheless to one Curtis on Felton's valuation.

⁴ I have been unable to discover the connexion between the de Greys of Merton and Thomas de Grey, son of William late of Caxtons mannor. This William was lord of Caxtons—having succeeded Thomas de Grey of Merton, the priest—from 1557 till at least 1568, as the headings of the manor rolls show. A Thomas Grey, generous, claimed land in Merton in 1566.

heirs male, and in default to the right heirs of Robt. de Grey."

In the Deed of Discharge, dated 21st July, 2nd James, it is stated that Queen Elizabeth, on the 7th day of August, in the 43rd year (1601) of her reign (i.e., six months after Robert de Grey's death, and while his son William was within a month of his marriage, though still a minor and the Queen's ward) "did demyse and graunte unto Danyell Curtis, Gent., for twenty-one years, the manors and woods of Bury Hall in Ellingham and of Caxtons in Cornard pcell of the lands and possessions of Robte de Grey of Marten, Esquier, Recusant, deceased, for payment and satisfaction of the debt of the sayd Robte de Grey . . . both manors being then in the tenure and occupation of Danyel Curtis, gent., George Halliwell and Peter Halliwell."

The inquisitio post mortem of Robert de Grey is in the Public Record Office, Ao. 43rd Elizabeth, Part 2, No. 68. It was taken at Norwich, 31st March, 43rd Elizabeth. He died seized of the manors of Merton, Beechamwell, Bury Hall in Ellingham, Cackstons in Cornard, and Banyardes in Bunwell, of the advowsons of Beechamwell and Bunwell, and of lands in Thompson, Gryston, Watton, Tottington, and Marton. He held the manors of Merton and Baynards in Bunwell of the Earl of Sussex as of his manor of Hempnall; the manor of Beechamwell of Thos. Lovell, Arm.; the lands in Thompson, &c., of the Queen at the twentieth part of a knight's fee; and the manor of Bury Hall of Philip Knevett as of his manor of Buckenham.

Sir William de Grey, Knt.

Sir William de Grey, only⁵ son and heir of Robert, seems to have fully accepted the Protestantism which his father so firmly opposed; for in a MS. book at Merton Hall,

⁵ *Ex quorum nato unico et hærede Gvlielmo de Grey milite.*—Monument in Merton chapel.

full of correspondence on county business during the reign of James I. (a sequel to the Gawdy volume), Sir William appears as the leading man in the Wayland Hundred. He was Captain of a foot company, Deputy Lieutenant, and Justice of the Peace, in which latter capacity, in 1614, he had orders to search the houses of recusants, and to take away from them all furniture of war. Sir William, in 1620, finished building Merton Hall. He was the prolific father of seventeen children, of whom ten lived to marry. He died in October, 1632.

In the volume of State Papers for 1603—1610, at p. 135, there is a release to Sir William de Grey from all debts with which he is charged for the recusancy of his late father Robert.

The Deed of Discharge is preserved at Merton, and is dated 21st July, 2nd James I. It recites the fines due by Robert de Grey of Marten, Esquier, recusant, deceased, amounting to the large sum of £1,780, representing at least £17,000 of our money, and upon the humble petition of Sir William de Grey, Knight, "sonne & heire of the sayd Robert, he, Sir Willm. is discharged these fines laid upon his father." Bitterly, however, does he complain of the treatment he has received, for the deed is endorsed by him as follows:—

"But I p'test befoor God through the uniust dealinge of S^r Jhon Popham then Lord Cheif Justice of England whoe hated my father even after his death for noe cawse butt only for his recusancy and for his sake soe psecuted mee that he made a debit weer none was contrary to all former psidentes in the lyke cases and granted to one Curtis the assinge [assignee] of felton my mannor of Caxtones in little Corneard in Suffolke & my mannor of Burry hal in great Ellingham in Norff. worth thirteen score pound a year att a cxvjⁱⁱ yearly rent to Qu. Eliz. and theer by gayned seaven score pound a year besides the Qu. rent for fower yeares and a halfe, and befoore I could gett this discharge it cost mee sixe hundred pounce att the least my suit, wh. had almost quit undone mee beinge under age all the tyme of this suit, beinge forced to borrowe money at xⁱⁱ in

the hundred wh. weakned my estate all my lyfe after⁶ wh. I
iustly say was most rigorous dealinge, consideringe that divers weer
discharged in the lyk cases and I made the first psident against the
verry letter of the law and against the construction of the law by a
statute in 2 Jacobi afterwards made: and that this is trew I subscribe
my hand to it this 23 of June 1609.

"By mee William de Greya."

APPENDIX A.

(Page 299.)

Thomas Felton.

The following interesting extracts from state papers have been kindly sent to me by Mr. W. Aldis Wright, Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge. They confirm what is stated in the document given above with regard to Felton's proceedings against the recusants in general, and furnish additional proof of the hardships to which all who were steadfast to the old religious belief were subjected during the latter half of Elizabeth's reign.

Calendar of State Papers, Domestic, 1598-1601, P. 198, vol. cclxx.

May 24th, 1599. Order for commissions to be awarded out of the Chancery and Exchequer to Comm^{rs} nominated by the Lord Keeper and Barons of the Ex. the same to be prosecuted by Thos. Felton to enquire of forfeiture, debts, &c., due to Her Majesty by force of statutes touching recusants, that she may be answered of what is due to her [Dooquet.]

1598-1601, p. 226. Letter from George Fenner to Giulio Piccioli or Bernardo Edlyno, Venice, 30th June, 1599.

⁶ Sir William no doubt thought in 1609 that this would be so; but by his will, dated 12th May, 1629, it is plain that he has been able to make good his losses. He says, "I hope he [Robert his son] will have the grace to remember God's blessinge towards me & my indeavours towards him in leaving of him not only the inheritance left me, but divers p'cells of p'chased lands and houses built 4000 Pounds better than I founde it."

Felton has a new large commission for finding all recusants' lands and goods. See also p. 253-4, and p. 421.

April 18, 1600. One Felton, who long since had a commission for that purpose, prosecutes them [the Catholics] with all extremity, and is borne out in whatever injustice he commits by Lord Chief Justice Popham⁷ and others in authority, either from fervour of spirit or private gain, they sharing stakes with the principal.

1603-1610, p. 1. An account of moneys paid to Thomas Felton between the 29th and the last year of Queen Elizabeth. The date of this is supposed to be March, 1603.

Page 393. Statement of the account between the late Thomas Felton and the Crown in respect of a grant made to him in the late reign of the sixth part of the revenue from recusants. The date of this is doubtful, qy. 1607.

Calendar of State Papers, Domestic, 1598—1601. Vol. cclxxi. 108, pp. 253, 254.

Letter from Fras. Cordale to Marco Tusinga, Venice, (Summary).

"Sir Walter Raleigh and Sir John Stanhope have not yet obtained their expected advancements, but the latter, by patronizing Felton's courses and sharing his gettings, is better provided of money to buy at least a Councillorship, and the office of Chancellor of the Duchy. Felton brings the Papists to great misery. When the statute was made that those who did not pay the £20 a month should forfeit all their goods and two-thirds of their lands, the guard and others in office about the Court procured the Lord Treasurer's warrant, that any who indicted and convicted such a Papist should have a commission to find his land, and have a lease of two-thirds of it, at the rent found for Her Majesty; this obtained, they would offer composition to the recusant, and when this was agreed on and paid, would find it under the rate, and pass the lease to some friend; for they might not, by covenant, grant it to the owner nor any recusant;

⁷ Sir John Popham was made Chief Justice of the King's Bench 1592. Died 1607. Readers of *Rokeby* will remember the ballad of Wild Darrell, founded on a murder that is supposed to have been committed at Littlecote Hall. Sir — Darrell, it is said, after sentence of death was passed on him for the murder by Judge Popham, bought his life by giving "his noble house, park, and manner" to that Judge (See Appendix to *Rokeby*, note 3 c.)

yet were all these leases during pleasure; so first the recusant was compelled to a grievous fine, and yet yearly to pay the Queen a rent for his own living, and besides had to make away all his goods.

"Then, when this course was taken all England over, Felton, by Sir John Stanhope's means, informed the Queen that it would be very profitable to grant a commission for further inquiry into recusants' livings. He got many base fellows as agents in different shires, who seized on all recusants' goods, surveyed their lands, examined their tenants on oath, found their livings at higher rates, and so frustrated the first leases, took new ones, dispossessed the recusants, and lived there, or placed there some bankrupts like themselves; so that the recusant is put to maintain himself and his family on a third part of his living. Should he make shift to live and get any goods together, they come and take all again, so that he cannot use that third part himself, but must let it out to others, and live on what it will yield.

"If a gentleman, reconciled [to the Church of Rome] during his parents' life, when he was unable to pay the statute, should afterwards come and offer arrears, and the £20 a month in future, which is what the law exacts, that is not allowed, but the Queen may take the fairest, and for £260 she has of some £400 a year, and yet must Felton and his companions choose their fairest house and domains, and assign them what they list for their third. Thus have Carvell, Thimbleby, Gawen, and many others been dealt with, so that some whose living is hardly worth £260 a year, yet had rather pay the whole, and possess their own livings, than be subject to the barbarous usage of Felton and his confederates. Felton has, for this service, a pension of £200 a year, of which Sir John Stanhope has half, but Sir John being beggarly and not able to pay his debts, takes a further course to benefit himself.

"At the first executing of his commission he found recusants' livings at the highest rate, so that no gain was to be had by taking leases; but now, the leases being made only at his nomination, he finds the land higher than it was before, but not at the highest rate, that some gain may redound to himself; he lays his plot to enter at Midsummer, and so reap the corn. On this Falkner and others have come to the Judges and desired another commission of enquiry, promising to find their livings at higher value than Felton has done, and have with much labour obtained it on condition that Felton be a commissioner; but he, knowing that it will prejudice him, refuses to sit, and so delays them till next term, when they hope to get a general com-

mission. Some, seeing that Felton must get all, have broken their windows, turned up their gardens, destroyed their dovecootes and warrens, and would have burnt their corn, but the law prohibits it. These agents never cease travelling from place to place to discover recusants' goods and livings, so that there never was the like oppression, and many are kept in prison, and their friends have no means left to maintain them."

Thomas Felton, there is little doubt, was of the family of "very ancient and illustrious descent," settled at Pentlow near Sudbury; a branch of the family of Felton of Playford, of which the Marquess of Bristol is the present representative. In a paper by Lord Arthur Herve, now Bishop of Bath and Wells, in the 4th vol. of *Suffolk Archaeology*, on the Felton Family, it is said, on the authority of Richard Almaack, Esq., F.S.A., that "though the Feltons appear to have parted with their property at Pentlow about 1570, they continued in the neighbourhood."

There is no doubt that Thomas Felton had children baptized at Cornerd, which is within eight miles of Pentlow, between 1584 and 1592; and he certainly owned Peacock Hall in Cornerd; so that he probably was of the Pentlow family. Then, too, Mr. Almaack had a deed in his possession in 1864, dated 39th Elizabeth (1595), to which one of the witnesses was Thomas Felton, and it was sealed with his seal, bearing the arms of Felton of Pentlow, Gules, two lions in pale passant gardant ermine, crowned or, with a crescent for second branch. This witness was probably Thomas Felton of Peacock, who was, too, I think, the writer of the following letter—printed by Lord Arthur in the same paper—and for these reasons. The extracts given above from state papers show that Thomas Felton and Sir John Stanhope were both engaged in the prosecution of recusants, and the letter shows that the writer was employed in the Queen's service, and in Sir John's department, and in some unpopular task. Is it not almost certain that the two Thomas Feltons were one and the same, and that the letter relates to Felton's proceedings against the recusants, which may well have caused him, as he says, both trouble and danger? The letter proves that Felton and the High Sheriff of some county were both attacked while engaged upon public duty, and it is not at all unlikely that some exasperated Roman Catholics, in revenge for their cruel wrongs, should have assaulted the sheriff and his assistant.

Letter to Sir John Stanhope from Thomas Felton.

Sir

My humble duty remembered. Touchinge her Majesty's service wherein I am commanded I shal be able to increase her revenue according as is specified in this inclosed note, besides very many others, which for want of time I cannot yet enquire of. But with what trouble and danger this service is performed I will leave to the report of this bearer Hugh Wallworth, yeoman of her Majesty's garde, who in this service doth help me very much in that these countries wherein I now serve are well knowen to him. For which cause I humbly pray you to gett him leave to be with me untill these parts be finished. The High Sheriff and myself in doing of duty have been assaulted with pistols and other forceble weapons, the truth whereof is certified upon examination of the matter to the Lo. Chief Baron by Sir Henry Bromley.

I have been since assaulted by one Thomas Abington with other his confederates in my chamber, the circumstance whereof I leave to the description of the bearer likewise. Humbly praying you at your best leisure to have some conference with the Lord Chief Justice of England, and the Lord Chief Baron, and then to move her Majesty for proper remedies as in her gracious wisdom shall think fitt, in the meantime I will not, god willinge, for any feare omitt any item of my dutye. And so I most humbly take leave. Worcester, this 28th of September, 1598.

To the Right Worth

Yours in all dutye

Sir John Stanhope

Thomas Felton.

Knight, Treasurer of

Her Maj^{ty} chamber.

APPENDIX B.

(Page 300.)

Cartons Manor.

This manor of Robert de Grey's had been for nearly three hundred years in his family. It was not, however, I believe, part of the

estate of Sir Richard de Cornerd, lord of Great^s and Little Cornerd, which estate came to Sir Thomas de Grey by his marriage, about 1306, with Sir Richard's daughter Alice. For some very early rentals belonging to this manor seem to show, that before it came to Sir Thomas de Grey it was the property of Richard de Caxton, and not of Sir Richard de Cornerd.

The heading of one of these rentals is as follows:—

Hec sunt Nomiā tenentī Riel de Kaxtoñ qui tenent de feod suo in vill de Cornerthe pua & Buris [Bures] & reddūt Reddiť ad festa scī Mich' scī Andř Pasch Rogacionū & scī Joh'nis Baptist' ut pr inferi'.

Another of the headings is as follows:—

Rental dñi Thom. de Grey mltis de teñtibus suis que qñd fuer Rici de Caxton ptinent ad mañ suū in Cornēth pva.

And another:—

Rental dñi Thom. de Grey miliť de teñt suis ptin ad maner de Caxton.

We know within a few years what must be the date of these two last rentals, for in the long pedigree of de Grey of Merton, extending through eight hundred years, there are but two Sir Thomas de Greys, viz., the two, father and son, who lived in the first half of the

^s The manor of Great Cornerd is stated in Page's *Suffolk*, p. 935, to have been alienated by the de Greys to the convent of Malling about 1317. It is however certain, from an old rental of Great Cornerd manor, now among the muniments at Merton, that the de Grey family did not part with it till after the 35th Edward III. (1361). The words of the heading are as follows:—

Comp Will'i Smethe f'ment' Rog'i de Grey in maner' suo ibid' a fs s'cti Th'e Ap'li anno rr E. t'cij post conquest' xxxv^{to} usq', &c.

As to the manor of Little Cornerd, it appears to have been in the de Grey family in 1st Henry V. (1413-14), for in an old manor-book of Cartons the records of certain courts of the manor of Little Cornerd are inserted; the last being that of the court of the above date.

In 1371 Sir Roger de Grey, in his will, declares that he had infeoff Sir William Bawda, Priest, and others, in his manor of Little Cornerd.—Blomefield under Merton.

Perhaps the manor of Little Cornerd, like the two small manors of Folybrok and Appylgar, became merged in the manor of Cartons.

fourteenth century. The date of these rentals is probably about 1310; they prove that Caxtons manor was, at the time when they were written, the property of the de Grey family, and there is no doubt that it has continued theirs ever since, i.e., for about five hundred and eighty years.

APPENDIX C.

(Page 300.)

Peacock Hall.

This manor-house was no doubt named from a former owner. There is at Merton a parchment roll, dated 28th Edward III. (1354), containing the rental of John Peacock in the parishes of Cornerth Magna and Cornerth Parva. The heading is as follows:—

Copia ext' Rent' Joh'nis Pecok anno r' r' Edwardi t'cij vicesimo octavo.

The first item commences thus:—

Thomas de Grey tenet in Cornerth p'ua, &c.

This Thomas de Grey was the son of Sir Thomas and Alice de Cornerd his wife, and probably held his copyholds of Peacocks in right of his mother. He married Isabel, daughter and coheir of Fulk Baynard of Merton. He held his first court for the manor of Merton 33rd Edward III., and died before 37th Edward III. (1363), in which year his son Sir Roger held his first court for the same manor.

I am indebted to George Mumford, Esq., the present owner of Peacock Hall, for the information, that the oldest deed in his possession relating to this property is dated 14th November, 38th Elizabeth (1596), and is a conveyance of the manor of Peacock Hall and of Cornerd, with the advowson of Little Cornerd, from Peter White and John White to Edward Curtis and John Chayce. In this deed another deed dated 22nd November, 30th Elizabeth (1587), is recited, in which Thomas Felton of Little Cornerd, gentleman, with two others, are engaged to pay £100 a year (probably as a charge upon the property) to the wife of John Fortetine during her life. This is some corroboration of the statement in the document given above that Peacock Hall was Felton's. There is a further corroboration in the parish register of Little Cornerd. For in 1584, Thomas, son of Thomas Felton, Gent., was baptized, and there are six more baptisms of

Feltons between that year and 1592, making it almost certain that Thomas Felton was residing at Little Cornerd, and probably at Peacock Hall, during those years. Felton, as we know, sold Peacock Hall. Perhaps he sold it to the Whites, who possessed it in 1595. In the 13th Charles I. (1637-8), Peacock Hall was the property of Sir Robert Crane of Chilton, who in that year conveyed it to — Newman, whose descendant, Newman Sparrow, built the present manor-house in 1798, and was living there in 1800. In 1875 it was purchased by Mr. Mumford.

APPENDIX D.

(Page 311.)

Wayland Wood.

Wayland Wood has an especial notoriety in Norfolk. It is known by tradition as the scene of the murder of "the Babes in the Wood," and this story was associated with it, there is reason to believe, at least as early as the end of Queen Elizabeth's reign; for the house known as that of the cruel uncle, an old manor-house still standing near the wood, was built in 1597, and had carvings in it representing the story. The well-known ballad is supposed not to be older than the middle of the seventeenth century.

There is in the Merton muniment room^a a deed of bargain and sale, dated 24th August, 33rd Henry VIII. (1541), from Sir Edmund Knyvett of Buckenham Castle, to Edmund de Grey of Merton (father of Robert the recusant) of—amongst other lands—"Wayland Wood, otherwyse called y^e College Wood, pcell of y^e possessions of Tompson Colledge"; and in the schedule attached to the conveyance, dated 30th August following, occurs this passage:—

"Closes and lands in Waylond ffield.

"First a certain wood or thicket called Waylond Wood containing by estimation 10 acres of land, and lying near the wood or thicket of the manor of Merton, and the Nabbe pertaining to a certain manor in Threxton."

^a I am preparing a paper on the interesting and valuable collection of muniments at Merton Hall, which I hope may be ready for Part ii. of Vol. ii. of Mr. Walter Rye's *Norfolk Antiquarian Miscellany*.—G. C.

It would seem from this that the part of Wayland Wood bought by Edmund de Grey of Sir Edmund Knevett, was (notwithstanding the evidence given at Wymondham by John Dover and Edmund Graie, *ut sup.*) not the Nabbe, but a piece of 10 acres which had belonged to Thompson College, and which was called Wayland Wood, and that Edmund de Grey must have bought the Nabbe from someone else. It is however very doubtful if the Nabbe came at this time into the possession of the de Greys. If it did, they must have afterwards sold it, for on the 9th July, 1724, Sir Edmund Bacon, Bart., sold it to Robert Knopwood, Esq., of Threxton, who on the 28th September, 1725, sold it to Thomas de Grey of Merton, Esq.—See deed at Merton, latter date.

It would seem that there were three other woods adjoining this piece of 10 acres, two of them at least bounded by great ditches, viz. :—

1. The wood belonging to the manor of Merton, which I suppose to be the wood described in the depositions as being the ancient inheritance of the de Greys, and called, like the college portion, Wayland Wood. This wood probably contained some fifty or sixty acres, for in Robert de Grey's time the whole wood, including, no doubt, the Nabbe and the college portion, contained fourscore acres.—See Robert de Grey's marriage settlement, dated 26th Aug., 16th Elizabeth (1574).

2. The Nabbe, held of the manor of Threxton, and according to the Wymondham depositions purchased by Edmund de Grey. In a map of 1723, a piece of four acres in the south corner of Wayland Wood is called Threxton Nabbe. The ditches which once surrounded it are still (1882) to be traced.

3. We gather from the depositions that there was still another wood, called Mounteneys, belonging to a manor in Threxton. The position of this part of the wood is unknown. The Mounteney family owned Mounteneys manor in Threxton.—Blomefield. In a deed at Merton Hall, dated 11th Henry IV. (1409-10), William Mounteneye de Threxton was a witness.

The present Wayland Wood contains seventy acres.

A Letter

FROM SIR NICHOLAS L'ESTRANGE, BART.,
TO HIS SON.

COMMUNICATED BY

HAMON LE STRANGE, ESQ.

THE following letter was written by Sir Nicholas L'Estrange of Hunstanton, the fourth Baronet, to his eldest son, Hamon. It is undated; but as his son, to whom it is addressed, was born in 1687, and the letter speaks of the few remaining years of his minority, and of his already having spent some time at the University of Oxford, it may safely be referred to the early years of the eighteenth century: probably to 1704 or 1705. At the time of his writing it, Sir Nicholas, though only about forty-four years of age, was apparently under the apprehension that he had not long to live; in point of fact, he survived his son by nine years, as he himself did not die till 1724, whereas Hamon died in 1715, whilst travelling on the Continent, and was buried at Basle. Sir Nicholas was married to Anne, daughter of Sir Thomas Wodehouse, Knt., of Kimberley, whose eldest son, Sir John, the fourth Baronet, was the uncle referred to in the letter.

It may be worth while here to place on record some particulars as to the changes in the way of spelling the family name: the Latin form in early deeds is of course "Extraneus," which, as soon as it was used in an English

form, appears as "le Strange," or even more generally "le Straunge," though the Barons of Knockyn and Blackmere left out the article entirely, and were simply Barons "Strange," in which form the title is still borne by the Duke of Athole. The point to which I wish to call attention is that "le" was a mere article, always written with a small "l," and that the essential part of the name, however it was spelt, was "Strange," with a capital "S." This spelling was made use of, as may be verified by signatures to deeds, up to the middle of the seventeenth century. Sir Hamon, who died in 1654, appears to have been the first to change it. He sometimes wrote his name all in one word, "Lestrange;" but in his later years introduced the apostrophe and the large "E," "L'Estrange;" perhaps influenced by the introduction of French manners at court by the French queen of Charles I. Compare the alteration made by Mary of Scotland from Stewart to Stuart. This spelling became that more generally known, owing to its adoption by the well-known writer, Sir Roger L'Estrange. About thirty years ago my father, after a careful examination of ancient documents, reverted to the original form of writing the name, viz., "le Strange."

To return to the letter after this digression, I cannot do better than let it speak for itself. Its sound common sense and knowledge of the world, its unaffected dignity combined with a tone of earnest and simple piety, are characteristic of the period when it was written, and render it perhaps worthy of a place in the pages of the Norfolk Archæological Society.

H. le S.

Dear Hañ :

As you have hitherto never wanted my best Instructions as well as Endeavours in y^r education, suitable to the severall yeares of y^r youth, so I would not leave you Destitute of those further Directions requisite dureing the

few remaineing yeares of your minority, of w^{ch} I would have you spend another summer and winter at the University. I carryed you to Oxford upon the same wise Reasons as S^r Christopher Calthorp plac'd me there, where you might have a new acquaintance wholly to choos, & I hope you have contracted it wth such sober & discreet young persons, wth whom you may spend some houres of buisness wth advantage, & your Times of Leisure wth Innocence. As my Death will putt you in a little higher station there, it will in many particulars double the annuall charges; But lett me caution you ag^t unnecessary & extravagant expences; w^{ch} you may possibly be putt upon; & I hope the many letters I have already wrote upon this subject, in part, may have made such suitable Impressions, as I need not add more on that Poynt. If you will bestow the following summer in takeing a view of y^r own Nation it may tend both to your Pleasure & Improvement. The next stage of y^{or} Life ought to look toward matrimony, in order to a settlement in the world, and herein I particularly charge you to be advis'd by y^{or} Mother, who has ever shew'd a most Tender & Passionate Concern for you, and ought to have the returne of a true and most affectionate Duty on your part, as well as y^{or} uncle S^r John Wodehous, and S^r Christopher Calthorp, to whome I have reco^mended the care of y^{or} Person and Fortunes. The circumstances of y^{or} Family will require a moderate Portion, wherever you shall fix, in order to discharge those Provisions w^{ch} I have appoynted, & I hope you will be punctuall in makeing good to y^{or} Brothers, & Sisters, to whom I have by my Will bequeathed each their share, wth Equall Regard to y^{or} self as Head of the Family, and to them as Members: Hopeing they will make such Improvem^t of the meanes I have putt into their Hands, as they may not be afterwards a Burthen to you, or a Disgrace to my Memory, and Family. & you must Remember that when I am gone, you stand in the place of a Parent to my younger children; & I'me sure ought not

in the least to Grudg at the Proportion you are to distribute to them. I shall not expatiate upon generall Rules for y^{or} comportment in this world. There are severall pretty short Treatises writt for y^e Instruction of the young Gentry, w^{ch} to read may bring you both Delight, & Improvm^t. I shall onely in short Reco^mend to you a constant & dayly Discharge of y^{or} Duty to God, w^{ch} will bring down both Blessings & Satisfaction. Be respectfull to y^{or} Rela^cions, Curteous & obligeing to all. Be punctuall to y^{or} word both in great as well as Triviall Concerns, tho' not over hasty in giveing promises, it having been my observa^con, that most Persons who ask a Kindness, look no further yⁿ their own convenience & Interest, wherefore you ought at y^e same time to weigh, whether the suddain Grant may not prove disadvantageous, if not greatly prejudiciall to your self. I give you this Hint as a caution onely, not a Barr, to your Kindness, & Generosity when Opportunity serves. You will find in my Evidence-hous a rude Draught of some Passages that have happened in my younger Yeares, w^{ch} perhaps may be of some diversion as well as Use to peruse. Lay this paper by & t'^lwill take but short time to Runn it over once a Yeare, & lett it be on y^{or} Birthday, it may occasion a little thought, w^{ch} is never amiss to a young man, & every pass^t year will probably administer some Passages worthy y^{or} reflection. God Almighty prosper all y^{or} undertaking. And have this sentence often in your thoughts, Keep Innocency & take heed unto the thing w^{ch} is right, for that will bring a Man Peace at the Last. And that I pray to God may be y^{or} Lott both in this World, & the World to come, & Remember you had a Carefull, Tender, and

affectionate Father

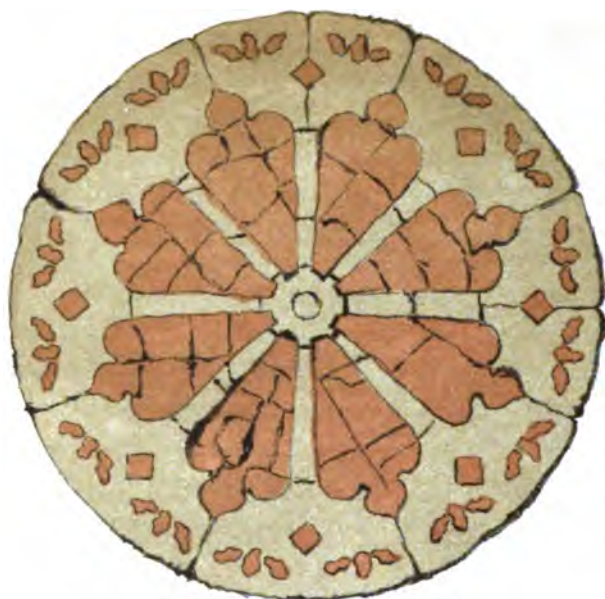
NI: L'ESTRANGE.

[Endorsed:]

For

My Son Hamon L'Estrange.





Brass.



Cross and Slab

LYING ON THE FLOOR OF THE
NAVE OF
N. BARNINGHAM CHURCH.
A FEW FEET E. OF THE FONT.

Entire breadth of Cross	-	56	inches
" " Bow	-	8	"
Length of each Arm	-	12	"
" Slab	-	76	"
Widest end	-	28	"
Smallest end	-	16	"

RJS.

Wheel Cross

IN THE

CHURCH OF ST. PETER, BARNINGHAM NORTHWOOD.

COMMUNICATED BY

JOHN GUNN, M.A., F.G.S.

I HAVE been unable to find any cross resembling in form the accompanying drawing of the wheel cross, which still remains upon the floor of the nave, to the east of the font in the Church of Barningham Northwood.

It is a common pattern in circular windows; but the stone cross at Sidestrand, described in vol. ix., page 180, of the *Original Papers* of our Society, alone bears any resemblance to it. Its position in the nave of the church appears to throw light upon what was, probably, the position of that of Sidestrand Church; and to account for the wearing down of the inscription and stone by frequent treading underfoot. It was, therefore, referred to by me as an illustration, the one of the other.

That at Barningham Northwood consists of a circle of stone composed of several pieces compacted together. It has a central boss, 8 in. in diameter; eight arms, 12 in. long, of stone; and eight radiating limbs of the cross, together with ornaments, inlaid, of red brick, similar to the tiles with which the nave is floored.

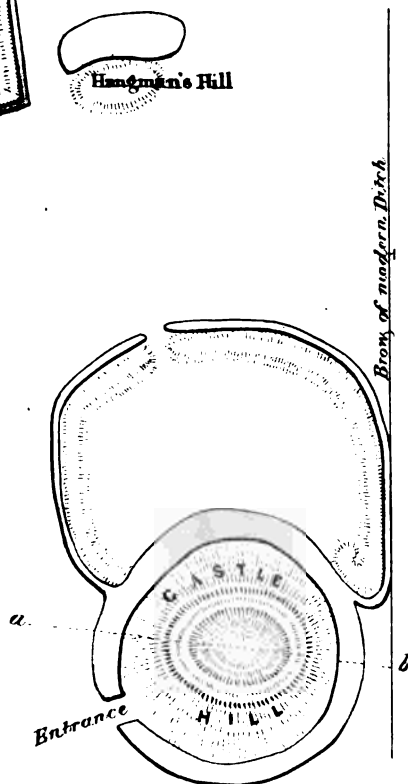
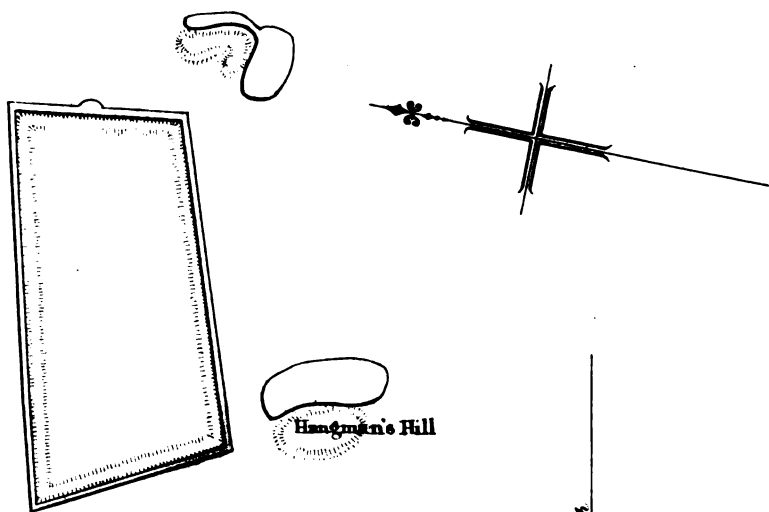
There is no monumental inscription, as on the Sidestrand cross; but a sepulchral slab immediately adjoins the east end of the cross, bearing the following inscription on a brass:—

Orate p' aīa Roberti Bakon̄ qui
obīit x̄d̄o die mensis maii
Anno dñi mill̄o cccc lxxii.

The date of this inscription appears to correspond with that of the wheel cross; and a question is raised as to whether the slab is intended as an adjunct, to commemorate the name of the person whom this beautiful cross may have been designed to honour, or whether it is not foreign to and unconnected with it.

It is a matter of observation that there is rarely, in any parish, a striking architectural feature, but it is found to be repeated in some church in the neighbourhood, whether it may be from local taste or some other cause: however that may be, this work of singular beauty, excepting the resemblance it bears to the cross at Sidestrand, may be pronounced, after extensive inquiries, to be almost unique.





Section from a to b.



EARTH WORKS IN DARROW WOOD, DENTON, NORFOLK.



Earthworks

AT THE "CASTLE HILL," DARROW WOOD, DENTON,
NORFOLK.

COMMUNICATED BY

THE REV. C. R. MANNING, M.A.,

Hon. Sec.

THE earthworks of which a plan is here given are situated at the northern end of the Parish of Denton, in the Hundred of Earsham, very near the boundary of the Parish of Alburgh, and were visited by the Society on July 7th, 1880. Their secluded position, overgrown with wood until about the year 1860, caused them to escape notice by Blomefield and other local observers, and history is completely silent as to their origin. It was not until the year 1850 that Mr. S. W. Rix of Beccles called attention to their existence by reporting to our Society (May 2nd) his observation of them with a brief description of their state.¹ Some notice was also taken of them about the same time by Mr. Greville Chester. Ten years later a correspondent of the *East Anglian* for July, 1860, mentions them, and describes the woods as being then in process of breaking up, to the possible destruction of the earthworks.² A suggestion had been made to Mr. Rix by Mr. Alfred Suckling that they were possibly Danish, and might have served as an outpost to the Danish camp at Earsham. From that time until 1880 no one with a knowledge of the subject appears to

¹ *Norfolk Archaeology*, iv. 346. ² *East Anglian Notes and Queries*, i. 89.

have seen them or made any report of them. Agricultural improvements have fortunately not effaced them, and it was with much interest to myself and others that a visit to them was at last arranged, during the excursion of July, 1880, in order that their nature and age might, if possible, be settled. Among the visitors on this occasion was Mr. S. W. Rix himself, who had so long ago drawn the attention of the Society to them; and the land being now cleared and laid down for pasture, the whole of the earthworks were accessible without difficulty, and their extent and plan could be readily seen. A very brief inspection was enough to show that their construction is identical with that of hundreds of others in the country, of which the purpose and age are known, and which have received much attention from antiquaries of late years, and I was glad to have the support of Mr. Rix and others who were present to confirm the opinion I expressed in briefly pointing out their character and object.

The remains are on a small scale compared with others of the class to which they belong. There is the usual "motte," or mound, about 150 feet in diameter, surrounded by a ditch on all sides, the contents of which were thrown out to form the mound. The height has probably been considerably reduced, and is now only about 20 or 25 feet: it has a depression in the centre, and is overgrown with shrubs. From the sides of the mound a horseshoe earthwork is carried, enclosing a small court or bailey. The mound is thus placed *upon* the bank, and forms the protection of its western end. This arrangement follows the almost invariable rule in castles of this date. At a distance of rather more than a hundred yards from the mound is a rectangular enclosure, surrounded by a low bank, measuring 260 feet by 130, and forming another yard; and beside it is a small knoll which bears the name of "Hangman's Hill."

To those who have visited and examined many sites of castles throughout the country, and especially to those who have had the advantage of the leadership of Mr. G. T. Clark of Dowlais, at the annual meetings of the Royal Archæological Institute, and have heard his admirable explanations of earthworks and castles, or have read his numerous contributions to their history and construction, such remains as this of Darrow Wood present no difficulty. The vague and confused ideas of the older antiquaries on the subject of earthworks of this character have been reduced by him and others to a clear system, warranted by historical facts, and I endeavoured to sum up the principal points to be observed on the subject in a paper on Eye Castle, contributed to the *Transactions of the Suffolk Institute of Archæology*.³ It is useful to remember that while British earthworks were *tribal*, and constructed for the defence of large bodies on the most commanding summits of high ranges of hills, and Roman works were *military*, and adapted for the encampment of soldiers under well defined rules of warfare, the castles of the chief lords of our English (Saxon or Angle) ancestors (A.D. 500—1066) were *domestic*, and intended for permanent habitation as well as defence. The invaders of Britain from Germany and the north brought with them their habits and customs, their language and names: in course of time the country was well nigh cleared of its British inhabitants, who were driven into Wales; and was parcelled out into settlements,—tons, hams, thorpes, worths, and leys, &c.,—mostly called after the family names of the first settlers. Their laws and institutions were a reproduction of those they were accustomed to on the Continent, and they are the foundation of those under which we now live.

The only part of this large subject with which we are concerned in this place is the way in which the lords

³ Vol. v. p. 104.

of the manors, or *Honours*,⁴ constructed their principal dwellings. As the chief lords and leaders had dwelt in their northern homes, so they continued to live and build here, regardless of the previous occupants or their methods. They cast up a truncated cone of earth, formed out of the contents of the circumscribing ditch, known in our records as the "mota," "motte," mound, or "*burh*":⁵ upon it they constructed a *wooden* dwelling, defended with stout palisades, and approached by a bridge thrown over the ditch. This was the "aula" of the lord, of which we hear in the Saxon songs, and here he held his court, and did justice, and housed his family and servants. The castle was the "caput" or centre of the estate. Connected with the mound were base-courts for shelter of servants and the offices, and usually a larger enclosure at a little distance for the herding of cattle. In several cases earthworks of earlier date were made use of; and sometimes natural hills were brought into requisition, and scarped so as to save labour; in others, and more frequently, the works were new and artificial from the first. But in all, the principal feature is the conical *mound*: and in a vast number of our old castles this will be found, and is certain evidence of the pre-Norman habitation by a person of distinction, and probably in every case of the lord of the surrounding manor and estates.

⁴ *Honour* is a term "used for the more noble sort of seigniories, whereof other inferior lordships or mannours do depend, by performance of customes and services, some or other, to those that are lords of them."—*Cowell's Interpreter*.

⁵ "Originally the English burh was a fortified house, the 'Domus defensabilis' of Domesday, the 'aula' the German 'saal' of the owner of the surrounding estate or manor, which the tenants were bound to defend; of which the designation may be Norman, but the thing designated is undoubtedly of far earlier origin. The term burh naturally became extended to the cluster of surrounding huts, and a hedge with a ditch was their primary enclosure, the repair of which is provided for in very early Saxon laws."—*Earthworks of the Post-Roman and English Period*. By G. T. Clark, F.S.A., in *Archaeological Journal*, xxxviii. 34.

It is evident that no *stone* castle or walls could stand on such a newly-thrown up mound, and as a fact the mound builders did not live in stone castles, but within "wooden walls." Stone castles came in with the Norman conquerors. In their own Normandy the fashion of earthen mounds and wooden castles had prevailed as much as in England, for they, too, were of the same stock—Normans or Northmen—and there are numerous examples there still. But by the days of the Conquest, in the eleventh century, a more advanced method had been learned, which they at once imported. They built square castles on a flat surface, mostly not *upon* the mounds of the English lords whom they dispossessed, but on a natural foundation close by. Sometimes, when a mound was very large and solid, and partly a natural hill top, there was room and security for a square stone castle, as at Norwich; but more often the older works were incorporated in the defences by walls and towers, and the "keep" constructed on a safer site near at hand. Whenever, therefore, we see this mound, with its oval or horseshoe base-court, and other enclosures, and encircling ditch, we may know that such works are not British* or Roman, but English, of ~~the tenth~~ eleventh century generally; and if we can turn to any records or authentic history of the place, we shall find in many cases the name of the lord and owner in the Confessor's and the Conqueror's time, and the name of the Norman intruder to whom the conquering William made over his possessions.

* A very little reflection is enough to make it evident that a conical mound, a few yards square at the top, with no building upon it, would be a perfectly useless kind of defence to a *British* tribe. Only a few score persons could stand there; and in many cases, fewer still. The mounds were not intended to be used as bare hill tops, as we see them now; but to have a large wooden building erected upon them for permanent habitation; and the people who adopted this custom were Northmen and Old-English. Great circumscribing earthworks, enclosing a large space, as at Old Sarum, are British or Celtic; but the *conical mound*, protected by banks and ditches, as at Thetford, is English and ~~not~~ Norman.

The evidence for the English origin of these castles does not rest wholly on the works themselves. A large number are mentioned in the chronicles, with the names of the founders, and the date of their construction, and of these a good many can be clearly identified, and exist to this day: as Bamborough by Ida, in 547; Taunton by Ina; Bourn by Morcar, 870; Tamworth, Stafford, Eddisbury, Warwick, Chisbury, Warburton, and Runcorn, all by Æthelfleda in 913; Maldon by King Edward, in 920; Stamford, 922; Bakewell, 924; &c., &c.⁷ In the Bayeux Tapestry the taking of Dinan is represented, where the castle is "a timber building on a conical hill, which two men are attempting to set on fire, whilst others are ascending the mound by the steep bridge, reaching nearly to a gateway at its summit."⁸ A contemporary account, of the end of the eleventh century, quoted at the last reference, describes the process of erecting such castles.

In Norfolk there are remains of a considerable number of these English homes and fortresses. They may all be distinguished by the high conical mound and base courts, although sometimes they are mixed with earlier or later work. We do not look for such mounds at a Roman camp, which never became an English seat, as at Caistor by Norwich; nor within the moats of a fortified manor-house of Plantagenet days, as at Caister by Yarmouth. The two largest and finest in the county are Norwich and Thetford. These were both the residences and strongholds of the Kings of the East Angles. It is not unlikely that Norwich was constructed by Uffa in 575, probably on the site of a British camp; it was certainly the castle of King Anna in 642.⁹ Thetford, one of the largest mounds in the kingdom, was probably also the work of Uffa. Although Thetford was burnt by the Danes in 870 and 1004, we are

⁷ *Archæological Journal*, xxiv. 102.

⁸ *Ibid.*, p. 101.

⁹ Blomefield, ii. 4.

to understand that the buildings destroyed were of wood, and if they occupied the earthworks, as they doubtless did for many years, it would be in timber structures re-erected, and there is no reason to attribute the earthworks themselves to the Danes.¹

The other English (*i.e.*, pre-Norman) castles in Norfolk are at Castleacre, Mileham, Horsford, Middleton, and Wormegay. Weeting does not appear to be earlier than Norman. Castle Rising and Buckenham have stone castles defended by large surrounding earthworks, but no central conical mound: and these are precisely the two Albin castles that were erected after the Conquest;² although possibly on old British sites.

Denton Castle is the smallest and most decayed of all. It never had any stone buildings upon the site. About thirty or forty years ago Mr. Middleton, then tenant of the property, found a large piece of old oak buried several feet in the ditch surrounding the mound, at the spot where

¹ There are instances in the country, as at Tempsford in Bedfordshire, of Danish earthworks; and perhaps those at Warham in Norfolk may be their work, for they also were northmen, and mound builders; but wherever there was the "caput" of an English lord, and earthworks remain, these earthworks may mostly be attributed to them, and not to the Danish invaders of a later day.

² Mr. G. T. Clark, in *Archæological Journal*, xxxviii. 267, mentions "Haganet, a Norfolk castle taken by the Earl of Leicester and his invading Flemings, and utterly destroyed." But this is Haughley in Suffolk, also called Haganeth, the seat of an honour. The Norman buildings upon it were destroyed in 1173, but the fine mound and banks still remain. He also mentions Burghwood as an adjacent castle to that of Mileham; but they are one and the same. He describes the ditches of Norwich Castle as "concentric," as they used to be given in old maps, but Mr. Harrod has completely disproved that view. (*Castles and Convents*, p. 124.) Tatehall and Marnham (p. 268) are in Lincolnshire, and Kenninghall was a post-Norman fortified manor-house.

The following English earthworks in Suffolk may be usefully compared with those of Norfolk:—Bungay, Clare, Eye, Framlingham, Haughley; also those at Cambridge and Ely.

the entrance now is. This was probably part of the timber structure upon the mound, or of the bridge that gave access to it. Its history is lost. It is probably one of those cases in which the new lord who had a grant of it at the Norman Conquest had a larger and better manor and castle elsewhere, and accordingly abandoned it to the slow and silent overgrowth of the forest, and the abode of deer³ and small game, its existence unnoticed but by the woodman and the hunter, and the only tradition of its former purpose preserved in its name of "Castle Hill," recorded in charter or court-roll. In confirmation of this opinion I find a possible clue in the mention by Blomefield⁴ that the chief manor of Denton, (in which the Castle Hill is situated) was held of Bishop Stigand by Alfriz in the Confessor's time, and by Eudo son of Spiruwin at the Conqueror's survey; and that when granted by the Conqueror to William de Albini, a great lord of many other manors and honours, *he joined it to his manor of Buckenham Castle, "with which it passed many ages."*

³ Deerhaugh = Darrow Wood.

⁴ Vol. v. p. 402.



6p. 6in.



MURAL PAINTING OF ST. CHRISTOPHER. ST. ETHELDREDS, NORWICH.

Mural Painting of St. Christopher

AT ST. ETHELDRED'S CHURCH, NORWICH.

COMMUNICATED BY

THE REV. N. BOLINGBROKE, B.A.,

VICAR OF ST. ETHELDRED, WITH ST. PETER SOUTHGATE, NORWICH.

AMONG the objects of Archæological interest brought to view in the late restoration of St. Etheldred's Church, were the remains of mural paintings. These no doubt at one time extended over the whole area of wall surface.

On the north wall, immediately opposite the principal entrance to the church, was a painting of St. Christopher. This was the usual position of the representation of this saint, except as an image above or upon an altar. It was intended doubtless to be the first object which would meet the eye on entering the church. The very sight of St. Christopher was deemed a great encouragement to battle with the misfortunes, the calamities, and the disappointments which appertain to life in this world. Inscriptions connected with his representation inculcate this idea:—

“Whoever shall behold the image of St. Christopher, on that day shall not faint or fail.”

“Whoso shall behold the face of St. Christopher, on that day shall be exempt from an evil death.”

One cannot help feeling that there is a great deal of beauty in the practical teaching of the legend of St. Christopher. We have it embodied in the words of our Church of England Office for Baptism—"That we may so pass through the waves of this troublesome world that finally we may come to the land of everlasting life." Or we may think that to the Christian of four hundred years ago it inculcated the same lesson which is represented by the "Slough of Despond" in the *Pilgrim's Progress*.

The representation of our Saint at St. Etheldred's does not differ materially from the best known examples. The whole is contained in a frame of stencilled pattern, measuring 11 ft. by 6 ft. 10 in. The figure of the saint is 8 feet high. The drapery is represented as held above the knees, and portions are floating in the wind. He stands in the water, as indicated by a crab, three fish coloured like mackerel, and an eel. In his left hand is the well-known staff planted in the bank, and blossoming most luxuriously at the top. On St. Christopher's right shoulder sits the Holy Infant, who wears a green dress. Around his head is a very rich nimbus, which when carefully examined resembled a peacock's tail. His right hand is raised in the attitude of blessing, and his left holds an orb surmounted by a cross, just above the head of St. Christopher. No trace was found of the hermit with a lantern, or the miller, mill, &c., which I believe were in some cases introduced in the background. The picture differs from some in that St. Christopher is evidently not looking up at the Holy Infant, but stolidly pursuing his way through the water.

On the next space, between the windows on the north side, the remains of another painting were found. This evidently was a representation of "the Annunciation." There were clearly a floor and a ceiling, and in the ceiling a sun with rays descending from it. On one side a figure was just discernible, which I took to be the Archangel

Gabriel, but on the opposite side, where the figure of the Blessed Virgin might have been expected to have been found, the plaster had been cut away.

On the south side of the church a canopy with crocketed finials was found, but no trace of a figure was observable. There is little doubt that another figure lies hid on the east wall, which it is hoped may be uncovered whenever the restoration of the chancel is taken in hand.

It may be interesting to note here that the fine Norman door on the south side has been opened out, and has proved even richer in detail than might have been expected. Of this door a very careful restoration has been made.

The entrance to the rood stair turret was discovered. The jambs and arch are formed of very thin long bricks, perhaps Saxon. The position of this has been preserved by setting back the brickwork in the opening and showing the chamfer in the new plastering.

Throughout the church there was abundant evidence to show that at some time it must have been greatly damaged by fire.

A Cemetery Cross of the "Blackfriars" at Lynn,

BY

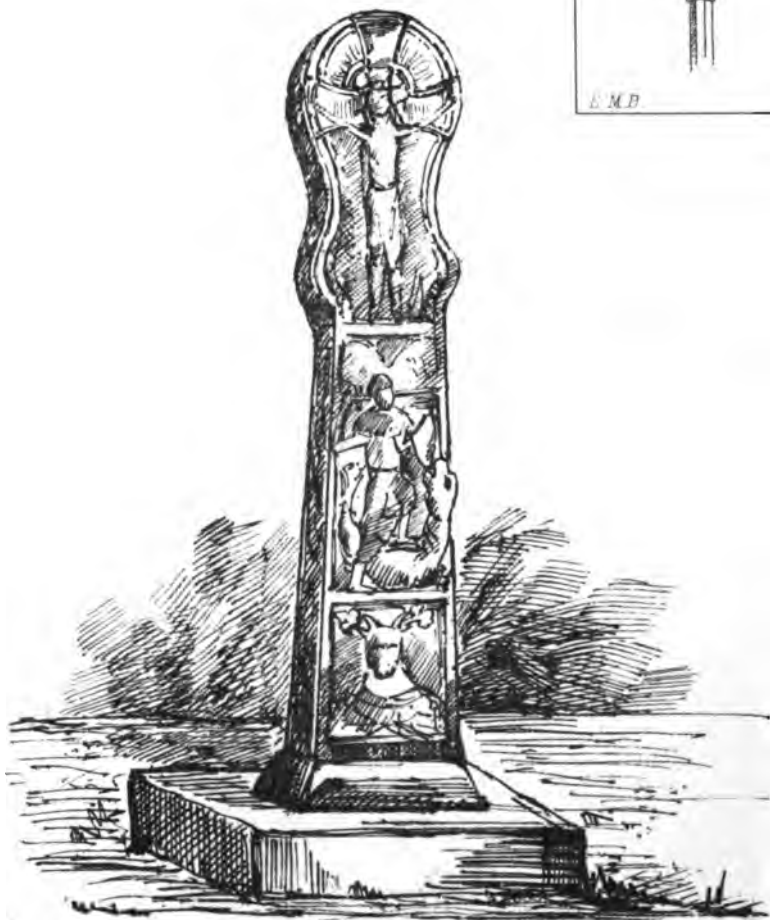
EDWARD MILLIGEN BELOE, ESQ.

I WAS asked, some twenty years since, by the authorities of the Lynn Museum, to mark the stones lying in a yard next the Museum, which I considered worth preserving—the stones could not have been deposited there more than ten years before: the site of the Athenæum, of which the Museum is part, up to that time had been a private mansion and garden. It was reported to me, on my looking over the stones, which lay just as they had been roughly thrown, that they had been brought from the ruins of the Blackfriars' Monastery, which was immediately adjoining. These ruins were removed between the years 1850—1852, when the whole site was laid out and built on. Among the stones I then found were the fragments which form the Cross, the subject of this memoir.

One of the phases of the Reformation of the sixteenth century in the East of England, and which we can now scarcely understand or interpret, is the hatred of the people to the chief and highest symbol of the most sacred act of our religion. Of the roadside crosses which were



E.M.B.



THE CEMETERY CROSS, - BLACKFRIARS, LYNN.
(RESTORED.)

E. M. Bela.
Jan'y 1884.



scattered all over the country there is not one remaining with the head perfect. The bases probably of nearly all remain, and in some cases the shaft to a considerable height, but the cross proper, which gave dignity to the whole, is gone. The bases meet us everywhere, especially in our north-western part of the county, and it is singular that the shafts which remain are nearly all of the same form, being octagonal tapering pillars set direct into a socket in the base.¹

We can probably restore the heading of the shaft from those few remaining in the West of England, where destructive zeal was not so strong as with us. In the churchyards of Amney Crucis and Ashelworth in Gloucestershire are two heads of crosses, both found severed from their shafts.² That of Amney Crucis is restored. The crosses are of the fourteenth or fifteenth century, and are simply flat sides of a rectangular stone bracket set on the shaft, with a canopy over each face, guarding a carved crucifix and Virgin and Child on the two principal sides. I have at "a," plate 1, given what I consider is a restored elevation of the head of these roadside crosses in Norfolk.

This is also the common form of the crosses in the Rhine district of Germany, and it continues there through the whole of the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries quite into the Renaissance period. One of the most beautiful of these, though its stem is not of the form of the octangular shaft, is a dated roadside cross (1473) at Heidingsfeld, near Wurtsburg, the head of which is of the tablet form canopied. And near the neighbouring village of Randesachre

¹ Four of these bases, with the shafts, were removed from their original sites some years since to form ornaments to the entrance of the lodge of Hillington Hall, Lynn.

² See *Notes on the Old Crosses of Gloucestershire*, Pooley, pp. 51, 52; also Rimmer's *Old Stone Crosses*.

is a cross of the fourteenth century,³ both as regards its shaft and head very similar to those I have mentioned in Gloucestershire, and this form continues, though the shaft is a pilaster fixed to a wall. In a cross nearer Wurzburg upon the pilaster is the inscription, "Jesus solus Salvator meus, 1674." These and many more existed and were built on the land where the Reformation was fought out, and are preserved. Except in Brittany, where numbers also remain, the Catholic wars destroyed nearly all the French cemetery and wayside crosses. The few examples given by Viollet le Duc, save one, have for the headings real crucifixes, and of one of these, found under the porch of the chancel of Rougemont, Côte d'Or, we shall have something to say hereafter.

It is clear we cannot trace the form of the crosses of the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries from our present subject. Its development through successive changes from the earliest examples is, however, I think, quite clear. We have here in fact a successor of those crosses which once probably stood in every churchyard in East Anglia when the Celtic or Saxon Church was the Church of the people, but which are now only left in the extreme west of our island or over the Channel in Celtic Ireland.

We all know by photographs and illustrations the grand crosses of Monasterboice in County Meath and at Kells: they have the flat shaft sculptured in compartments, and at the top a cross, with the ends of the arms square, a usual early Byzantine form, but with a circle meeting the arms just where they are sloped to form the square ending, the circle falling on this curve of the arms of the cross. This form is repeated on other crosses, except that the circles fall on the square ends of the cross. By following these forms nearer home, we have two examples standing on the extreme west, the one in Iona, the other at Carew

³ See *Builder* for 10th November, 1883.

in Pembrokeshire. At Iona the circle falls on the square ends of the arms, but the shaft is taller and more graceful than the older Irish examples, and we see a nearer approach to that of which we write; but at Carew we have a still further advancement in the form of the shaft and also of the heading. (See fig. 1.) The square ending of the arms



Fig. 1.—CAREW.

is gone, and though the head is still slightly pierced between the commencement of the arms and the circle, it takes but little further change to come to the form of the fine cross at Nevern, which is the germ of the form of the crosses which seem to have prevailed in East Anglia;⁴ this beautiful example (given in fig. 2) being now the only one remaining.

It will be seen that the head is no longer pierced, but is circular, the cross of equal arms just extending outside the

⁴ The woodcuts of the crosses at Carew and Nevern are taken from Cutts' *Sepulchral Slabs and Crosses*, plate lxxix. and p. 91 in the Notes, but they appear to be from the same blocks as the illustrations in *Archæological Journal*, vol. iii. p. 71, where the writer of the article thinks the crosses not earlier than the ninth or tenth century. The face of the cross at Carew is worn.

circle. Beneath is a sloping curved neck, as it were, and then the projecting shoulders, of which our cross retains the direct and consequent development. The shaft is flat, divided into compartments, which, seen side by side with the cross at Carew, is almost identical in form, with an oblong space in each shaft for an inscription, as on the eastern side of the one on which I am now writing.



Fig. 2.—NEVERS.

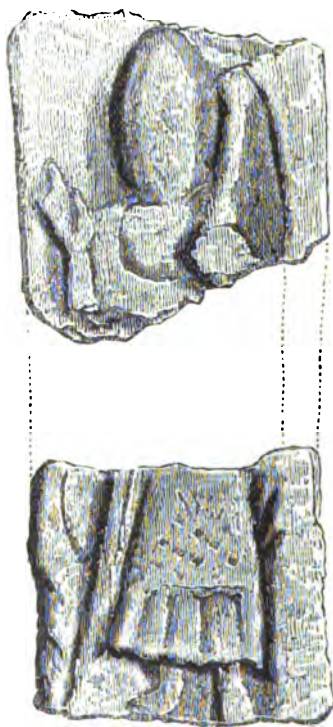
This cross of Nevers is probably of the ninth century, and is the latest of what are called the Celtic crosses. There are no crosses left to show the precise manner of further development, except perhaps the one on Carraton Down, Cornwall⁵ The shafts of many remain, as at Llanbadarnfawr, at Sandbach in Cheshire, and at Bakewell, but the cross itself has been long destroyed, and it is fortunate that the one at Nevers is left us to form a central link in the series which led up from the Irish Celtic crosses of Monasterboice and Kells through those at Iona and Carew to ours of the advanced thirteenth century.

If there is any doubt on this theory of "evolution" of

⁵ See Britton, *Arch. Antiq.*, vol. i. p. 1, "Ancient Stone Crosses."

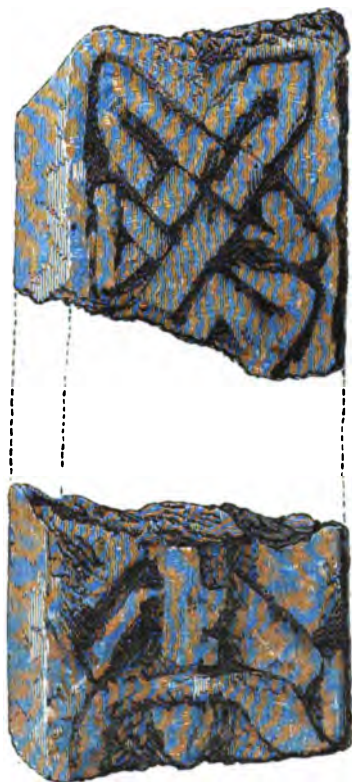


PLATE 3.



**PART OF THE SHAFT OF A CROSS FOUND WITH THE CROSS
DRAWN ON PLATE No. 2 (FROM A PHOTOGRAPH.)**

PLATE 4.



THE CARVING ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE SHAFT DRAWN ON
PLATE NO. 8 (FROM A PHOTOGRAPH.)



the form of the cross of the Blackfriars, Lynn, from its remote Celtic ancestry, I can, I think, clear it up. With the fragments of this beautiful cross I found part of the shaft of another cross. Though the carving on it is more archaic, I nevertheless at first thought this was the lower compartment of the stem of the principal one; but every attempt to adjust it failed. It would be perhaps a century earlier, but it is extremely difficult by the carving alone, and there is nothing else, to fix anything like exact dates. Of this part of the stem of this other cross I give both front and back elevation. (See plates 3 and 4.) The carving of the ecclesiastic in front might show a date a little before 1200, but at the back we have a distinct example of the interlacing ornament,⁶ which comes through centuries of growth direct from the cross of Monasterboice and Kells; and if the descent of the ornament is clear, it is not unreasonable that there should also be the descent of the form.⁷

I will now shortly describe the cross of Blackfriars, Lynn, and I must refer to the very good drawings of the west and east and also of the side elevations of the fragments of it on plate 2, and to my own assumed restoration of it on plate 1.

The top is circular, bending in very graceful lines at the side, and these lines just before joining the straight sides of the stem project so as to form, as I have said, a kind of shoulder; the stem widens towards its foot, and is divided into compartments. The principal object of reverence is the figure of the crucifixion in the head of the cross; this would be towards the west, so that the worshipper would

⁶ Compare form of ornament on plate 4 with the ornament at the top of the shaft of the cross at Nevers, fig. 2.

⁷ In the *Archæological Journal*, vol. iii. p. 260, is an illustration of part of the stem of a cross, the ornamentation of which is almost identical with that shown in plate 4. This was found at Bedale, and is assumed to be very early.

face the east.⁸ The form of the cross itself, to which the Saviour is nailed, is of the same kind as that we find at Carew and Nevern, and for the nimbus is another cross of the like form joined at the ends of the arms by a circle, a survival also of the older forms. The stone here is hollowed from the outer edge inwards, so as to bring out in strong relief the figure of our Saviour:⁹ the head of the figure leans to the right, and the body is not clothed with the tunic, but only with a band of cloth, showing a rather later date than the sculptured foliage, of which we shall presently treat, would seem to indicate. The grand forms of the cross to which the figure of Christ is attached, and the expressive posture of the figure, worn as the stone is, deserve special attention.

On the shaft of the cross itself, and beneath the crucifix, is a sculptured form of a man, his right arm raised with a sword in his hand, in the act of striking the head of a dragon, which is biting the point of his shield. On his back is what appears a suggestion of wings, but, judging from the sculptures on the front of Wells Cathedral,¹ dating about 1240, wings were not then thus conventionally rendered, but drawn to nature, and I place this cross further on in that century. The right foot is on the dragon or serpent's back. The figure of the man is not in armour, but in a long garment to the feet, girded round the waist—his figure is very fairly drawn, all trace of archaism is gone—full of energy as prepared to strike the vanquished brute. It is the seed of the woman that is to bruise the serpent's head. It is the representation in early and simple

⁸ There are examples in France and Germany where altars are placed on the western side under the figure of the crucifix, so that its position is certain.—Viollet le Duc, vol. iv. p. 434. The references to M. Viollet le Duc are to the *Dictionnaire Raisonné*.

⁹ Viollet le Duc, *Art. Crucifix*, vol. iv. p. 144.

¹ See Cockerell's *Sculptures of Wells Cathedral*, plate of sculptures opposite p. 52.





sculpture, in no uncertain manner, for the instruction of the faithful, of the final triumph over evil—which the act portrayed above it finally accomplished.²

Beneath, and forming the lower compartment of the shaft, is a figure, the head of which only remains, the rest being broken off and gone. This head is very singular, it is partly human and partly animal. The ears are at the top of the head, and are entirely those of an animal; from the inside of each issue forms that appear, as far as one can decipher them, sprigs of foliage; but as to that on the right, it might possibly be of some living creature.

I set to work to find what authority of tradition there could be for this unusual sculpture, and I came upon the engraving of a bas-relief found by Montfaucon under the choir of Notre Dame in Paris, in 1711,³ a copy of which is given below (fig. 3.) It shows a little more of the



Fig. 3.—FROM NOTRE DAME, PARIS.

figure than the stone I am describing, the carving going down to the shoulders, but the head and features are almost identical.

² The Rev. C. R. Manning considers the figure that of St. Michael. His opinion is entitled to attention, and what I write on this matter is more suggestive than decisive.

³ The Benedictine scholar Montfaucon was born in 1655, and died in 1744.—*Pictorial History of England*, ed. 1838, p. 69. The engraving of the earlier antiquities is especially well done in that work.

The ears on the sculpture described by Montfaucon are in the same position with regard to the head, and not dissimilar in outline to those on the cross; the forms, whatever they may be, issue from behind, but the effect of the whole is very nearly alike. Over the head is engraved in Latin letters CERNVNOS: this Montfaucon says is the name of a Celtic god. Now, I simply give my authority, my deduction, (which I leave to the judgment of my readers) that the sculpture on our cross gives the tradition of this form of a pagan god, one of the many, which the earlier un-Christianized Celts had. Our forefathers took the figure of a false deity of the heathen as a representation of the evil one, which they placed underneath and in submission to the carved pictures of the suffering and triumph of their faith.

The faithful, standing in the silence and gloom of the cemetery of the Blackfriars, in Lynn, with the grand church towering above him,—for if the remains of the Greyfriars are any indication of its beauty, and the *Fratres Prædicatorum* were the most popular of any, it must have been splendid indeed,—the faithful, thus standing among the dead, (those dead whose grand stone coffins I myself, when a boy,⁴ saw dug up, placed with their contents to the view of the crowd, and then broken up and their skeletons thrown again in the earth,) could see and feel in the sculptures before him the highest symbol of our faith, the cause of its triumph, and its act of triumph; and beneath, in that grotesque sculpture, whose origin was pagan, the degradation of his fallen spiritual enemy.

⁴ The Baptist Chapel and the adjoining buildings on the north side of the Blackfriars' Road, Lynn, stand on the site of the cemetery of the Blackfriars. The ruins removed in 1840—1852 stood further north, in a market garden,—they consisted of brick walls, in one of which remained windows of the fourteenth century and a doorway of the fifteenth century.

On the eastern side of the cross, in the circular head, is the figure of the Deity. The place of honour is given to Christ on the western side. The subordination in mediæval sculpture of the first person of the Trinity to the second, or rather the elevation of the second person, is here strongly marked. And on this part of my subject, which is in no sense dogmatic, it is best to quote the very words of Viollet le Duc, who, writing as a Catholic, says:—

“Nous ne connaissons pas une statue des xiii et xiv siècles représentant Dieu le Père; la seule personne divine prenant une place principale dans les édifices religieux est, le Christ homme ou le Christ triomphant. La Vierge Marie et son fils occupent tous deux l'imagination et le main des artistes. Il semble que Dieu leur ait délégué toute sa puissance sur les êtres créés.”⁵

The earliest symbol of the Deity is a figure of a hand. We have an example in the cross at Rougemont, Côte d'Or, of the thirteenth century, which we have mentioned, of this symbol of the Deity being on the reverse side of the cross, and we find here the figure itself, instead of the symbol, carved in the same position.

This figure is very finely sculptured. Behind the head is a cross forming the nimbus; the right hand is raised in the act of blessing;⁶ the face is worn away, but there is plainly the suggestion of the beard and of the hair falling in curves on the shoulders.

Viollet le Duc describes the sculptures of “Dieu le Père” in the groups above the portals of churches of the thirteenth, fourteenth, and fifteenth centuries thus:—

The Deity, he says, is there represented “benissant, et est nimbé du nimbe crucifère, porte une longue barbe, sa chevelure

⁵ Viollet le Duc, vol. v. p. 34, *Tit. Dieu*.

⁶ *Icon. Chrétienne*, M. Didron, Paris, 1843; Viollet le Duc, vol. ix. pp. 307, 310.

tombe sur les épaules.”⁷ This agrees well with the form in the eastern elevation of our cross. We know in the fifteenth century the head was always attired with the papal triple crown, but our sculpture is of the latter years of the thirteenth, and I think, though much weather-worn, that has been here the head covering. I am in this confirmed by the engraving in Viollet le Duc at p. 308, vol. ix., article “Trinité,” from a bas-relief in wood of the last years of the thirteenth century, under the west porch of St. Urban de Troyes. “Le Père est au milieu coiffé de la tiare à triple couronne comme un pape, de la main droite il bénit, de la gauche il tient la terre.” This description coincides with the fine carving of the Deity of the fifteenth century on the central boss of the vaulting of the porch of St. Nicholas, Lynn. But in the figure we are describing the left hand does not hold a globe, but a sceptre, and on the top of this, the carving of which is left very perfect, is what appears to be a small ball enfolded within leaves, or a representation of small wings.

It is difficult to decide from the stone itself whether the figure of the Deity is sitting or standing, but by the shadows given by photographs it appears that it is sitting, and what appears to be a chair is shown. The form is covered with an outer robe fastened in front round the neck, and raised by the right arm and covering the left hand holding the sceptre. Beneath this robe is a garment descending from the neck, covering the whole body to the feet, which in sculptures of the Deity at this date are not seen.⁸ In front, falling from the knees, is something which if it were lower down one would take for the equivalent of the apparel of a dalmatic, but it is too worn now, I fear, to be ascertained.

Under the figure is an inscription running across the

⁷ Viollet le Duc, vol. v. p. 34, *Tit. Dieu*.

⁸ Viollet le Duc, vol. ix. p. 308.

shaft. Every effort has been made to decipher it, but without avail.

The whole lower part of the shaft has the usual scroll-like foliage, of late thirteenth century, with animals grasping at fruit. This is easily seen by referring to the east elevation on plate 2, which faithfully describes it. The sides and all round the top are sculptured, in fact there is no clear space left, the whole is carefully wrought. In a hollow around the circle is a stem, on either side of which spring leaves, and on the southern side of the shaft are again grotesque animals, carved with great life and vigour, biting each other's tail. These forms come down in direct line of descent from the Irish and Saxon MSS., tracing again, as in the form of the cross itself, the art of the thirteenth century back to that of the eighth and ninth.

On the northern side of the cross, which would not be so much seen, the lower part of the shaft has quatrefoils surmounted by a grotesque animal, similar to that shown in the elevation of the northern face. It is not of sufficient importance to need a separate illustration.

We had in Norfolk a direct Irish mission; Fursius, who came from Ireland,—“*supervenit de Hibernia vir sanctus nomine Fursius*,”—founded his home at Burgh,⁹ “*maris vicinitate*.” But it is not to any such direct influence that we depend for the origin of our Celtic art. It was adopted and developed by the Saxon kingdoms, and we have here, perhaps, the latest phase of its evolution.

The lower part of the shaft and the base on which it stood are gone. I have tried a restoration of these in plate No. 1. It is not difficult to do this, for there are many examples left perfect. The crosses at Monasterboice and Kells go direct into large blocks of stone. That at Kells is

⁹ Burgh by Yarmouth.—Bede, bk. iii. chap. 19. Hussey's edition, 1846, p. 147.

undoubtedly original, for on it are carvings of the same date as the cross itself.¹

Gothic art was not invented: it was developed. From the grandeur of Durham comes by gradual growth the beauty and splendour of Westminster. So from the stern lines of the cross of the Irish Celt came by the same process of development the graceful forms and more perfect sculpture of the cemetery cross of the Blackfriars, Lynn.

In the early centuries we can trace this growth, but later on the link is broken, save perhaps by that fragment² which contains the sculpture of the early thirteenth century on one face and the Celtic ornament on the other; but of the perfect development of the older form I believe there is now remaining no example in the kingdom, save this beautiful cross of the thirteenth century that I have now illustrated.

NOTE.—The plate No. 2, containing the elevations of this cross is from drawings of Mr. John Robert Sutton of Lynn: they were taken direct from the cross, and have the freshness of original sketches. In cases of doubt recourse was had to photographs taken in a slanting light. The drawings themselves, and also photolithographs by Whiteman and Bass, are well executed.

E. M. B.

¹ I have taken my restoration of the base and lower part of the cross from one of the Argyleshire crosses near Inverary, the shaft of which is very similar in form to this. The cross illustrated by this paper is from one block of the shelly oolite from Barnack, the grain is unusually coarse, which made the carving still more difficult.

² See plate 4.

A P P E N D I X.

Extracts from the Proceedings of the Committee and General Meetings.

March 11th, 1879, General Meeting. MR. FITCH exhibited a bronze seal, found at Shropham, of Thomas de Derham, c. 1350, with the device of an eagle displayed.

THE REV. J. W. MILLARD exhibited a jewel box of wood covered with stamped leather, and bound with iron: date c. 1400.

THE REV. A. JESSOPP, D.D., exhibited a collection of early deeds belonging to R. North, Esq., of Rougham, and in giving some account of them, stated that the Rougham estate, as a whole, had never changed hands but once since the Conquest. The family of the Yelvertons gradually acquired small properties, became considerable people, and held the estate of Rougham until they became extinct, when the estates passed into the hands of the North family. Of the members of the Yelverton family three had been judges, and the whole family almost for centuries had been professional antiquaries,—students of and authorities upon the old laws and customs of the country. The family of the Norths also were not less antiquarian. The deeds which the Yelvertons had carefully preserved, stitching them together with cotton or worsted, passed into the hands of the North family, Roger North carefully preserving them in a tin box, which had been closed for one hundred and thirty years, and when opened contained on the top some valuable engravings by Vertue of the North family. Of the deeds themselves, one bore date 1284,

another 1292, and several others were anterior to the fourteenth century. Altogether there were one hundred and five documents. They were witnessed by the same people time after time. They illustrated in a remarkable way the subdivision of properties.

The REV. E. J. ALVIS communicated a notice of some stone coffin lids found in the south porch of the church of East Winch in 1875. The parish was the cradle of the Howard family, and the church must formerly have contained a rich display of funeral monuments. Beginning with Sir William Howard, Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, who died in 1309, and was buried in the chapel on the south side of the chancel, it appeared that through about one hundred and twenty years, when the family was connected with East Winch, eleven members of it were buried in that mortuary chapel. Weever mentions four monuments or memorials of them, but the coffin lids now under notice are not among them, and it is probable that when he wrote, in 1630, they were then in the same position as in 1875, viz., with the face downwards, to form a pavement for the porch. There are portions of five lids. The two best are both ridge-shaped. One is probably of the fourteenth century, and has a cross of good proportions and bold execution: the other is of the fifteenth century, and is battlemented all round: it has a fine cross on steps, and the angles formed by the arms are filled with four cinquefoils or roses. On one side of the shaft is a hammer, and on the other a square, possibly to commemorate an architect. (See *Illustration*.)

July 1st, 1879. MR. C. WILLIAMS exhibited a small MS. book of about the year 1603, with later additions, giving a list of mayors, sheriffs, &c., of Norwich, from the earliest times, belonging to Mr. Joseph Stanley.

The REV. DR. RAVEN communicated the discovery of



COFFIN LID FROM EAST WINCH CHURCH.



Roman fictile fragments, and of a rough pavement of flints, about two feet from the surface, at the camp at Caister by Yarmouth.

September 30th, 1879. MR. FITCH exhibited two bronze celts, and one of flint, found at Hunworth.

The REV. A. S. ORMEROD communicated a notice of mural paintings lately discovered at Wickhampton Church.

December 2nd, 1879. MR. FITCH exhibited a bronze celt found on the beach at Mundesley, in November, 1879, from a fall of the cliff. Also a piece of pewter, apparently the lower part of the bowl of a funeral chalice, found within a stone coffin in the south porch of Tharston Church. The grave was no doubt a priest's: the coffin lid has a cross upon it. Date, fourteenth century.

January 30th, 1880. The REV. J. R. FEILDEN reported that an oak coffin had been found among loose earth and bones beneath the font in Baconsthorpe Church. It was covered with velvet, with brass nails, and was conjectured to be not more than one hundred and fifty years old. He thought it might have been that of Judith Britiffe, wife of Sir John Hobart, first Earl of Buckinghamshire; but he had since ascertained that her name was not in the register.

MR. MANNING read a note he had received of the discovery in Erwardon Church, Suffolk, in 1837, of a leaden heart-shaped casket, supposed by parish tradition to have contained the heart of Queen Anne Boleyn, whose aunt, Lady Morley, lived at Erwardon.

March 2nd, 1880. MR. FITCH exhibited a neolithic celt found in making a railway cutting at Plumstead.

March 17th, 1880, General Meeting. MR. FITCH exhibited a fine gold seal ring, picked off the tooth of a harrow the week before, in a field at Sall. It bears the device of three natural (non-heraldic) roses.

The REV. W. F. CREENY exhibited a number of rubbings of monumental brasses and stone slabs, taken by him in Belgian churches in the past year. The series contained some of remarkable beauty and interest, and are of the class represented by those at Lynn and a few other places in England, in which the design is incised on broad plates of brass, covering the stone, the background of the figures being filled up with decorative ornament. Mr. Creeny gave an instructive account of the persons represented, and their costume, and the various incidental subjects depicted with them.

MR. GUNN drew attention to the mouldings of the Norman nave-arches of Norwich Cathedral. He referred to a difference of opinion that occurred at the meeting of the Archæological Institute in Norwich, in 1847, between the late Professor Willis and Mr. Henry Harrod, respecting the termination westward of the nave. The Professor maintained, in accordance with Blomefield, that the original work of Bishop Herbert de Losinga did not extend beyond the second bay, embracing four arches: Mr. Harrod, that it extended the entire length of the nave, from the tower westward. One ground on which Professor Willis founded his opinion was, that the mouldings of the ante-choir were very plain, similar to those in the upper tier of the choir, and also to those in the Tower of London, which was built by the Conqueror. This statement, Mr. Gunn said, if borne out by facts, would certainly have gone far to settle the question in the Professor's favour; but it has turned out, under the scrutiny of Mr. Brown, the architect of the Cathedral, and the experimental searching of Mr. Spaul, that these supposed ancient Norman mouldings are a debasement of the original billet-mouldings, which had been mutilated, and covered with plaster. The result of this bungling performance is, that a very illegitimate moulding has been produced, like nothing in any architectural description of mouldings, or in any buildings; and

had Professor Willis examined these hood-mouldings more closely, he would have detected the spuriousness of their form, and admitted that no argument could be derived from them with respect to the date of that part of the building.

December 7th, 1880. MR. GUNN exhibited a drawing of the arch of a Norman doorway opened at the west end of the Cathedral, showing some of the original painting.

The REV. DR. JESSOPF stated that he had had a transcript made of a report in the Public Record Office of a commission to visit the smaller monasteries in 1535, so far as relates to Norfolk, and that he hoped to prepare a paper on the subject.

January 28th, 1881. MR. FITCH exhibited a chain, fibula, eagle, a leaden roundel pierced, and some coins, all found in the camp at Caistor by Norwich some years ago.

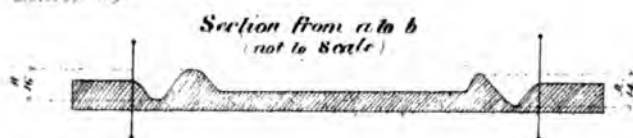
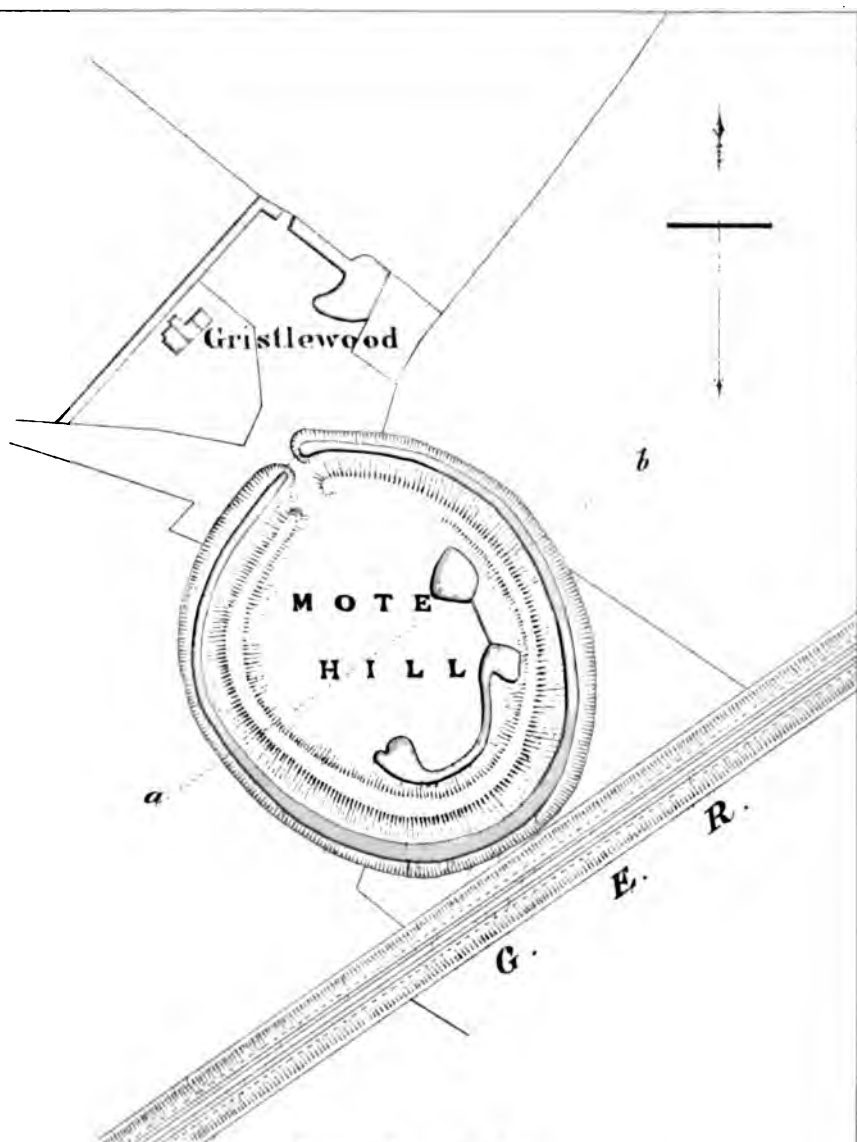
May 5th, 1881. The REV. J. W. MILLARD exhibited a very fine palæolithic celt found at Burston lately; and MR. FITCH exhibited another from Methwold.

MR. MANNING exhibited an old volume of churchwardens' accounts of the parish of Denton, preserved in the parish chest there, and kindly lent by the churchwardens. They extend from the end of the reign of Henry VII. (1507) to the year 1539. He also produced a transcript in full, which he had made of them, and extracts from the entries in later years.

MR. MANNING also exhibited a plan of an oval earthwork, called the "Mote Hill," in the parish of Wymondham. It is situated in a completely flat country at Gristlewood, immediately adjoining the line of the Great Eastern Railway, at about a mile from Wymondham Station, on the Norwich side. The tracing exhibited was kindly supplied by Corporal Mc Donald, from the new Ordnance Survey, by permission of Captain Day, R.E. This earthwork has been frequently noticed, and was visited some years ago

by a few members of the Society, including the late Sir John Boileau and Mr. Harrod; but its age and object were not determined. It consists simply of an oval bank, of considerable height, with a ditch outside it, inclosing a level space. The whole measures about 150 yards by 130. It is now overgrown by trees and shrubs. There is nothing to indicate a Roman origin; its flat and exposed situation would have rendered it useless to a British tribe for purposes of defence, and it clearly does not belong to the class of English castles, with conical mounds, the seats of the lords of manors before the Conquest. Its true purpose is disclosed by the name which has fortunately been handed down with it. It was a "Mote Hill," or "Moot Hill": a place of meeting in the open air for those who attended a court, either of the hundred or of a manor. Such places, many of them called like this one, "Mote Hill," are to be found scattered all over the country in great numbers. They have been carefully described and enumerated by Mr. G. L. Gomme, F.S.A., in his work on the subject—*Primitive Folk Moots*; and the *Open Air Hundred Courts of Norfolk* are the subject of a paper by him in the present volume, p. 62. Blomefield has recorded several places in the county at which such courts were held, but this one at Wymondham is not mentioned by him. Wymondham is in the Hundred of Fourhoe, and the court was anciently held at the Four Hoe, or Four Hills, in Carleton Fourhoe. It is not known at present what assembly met at this "Moot Hill," but the explanation here advanced, of its purpose, seems to suit best its position, construction, and name, and it is thought well worthy of illustration in our Society's pages. (See *Illustration*.)

June 9th, 1881. MR. FITCH exhibited a brass seal found in St. Peter's Mancroft parish, with a monogram M.Y. and the inscription "S' Margaretei Yde." Date c. 1500.



MOTE HILL, WYNDHAM.

From the Ordnance Survey by permission of Capt. R.E.





MR. MANNING exhibited a brass finger ring, formerly belonging to the Rev. E. C. Alston, of Dennington, with a rebus of an eagle with a bolt in its beak, and a tun. On each shoulder of the ring is a tau-cross. Date, fifteenth century. Also a small medallion of Prince Rupert (?)

MR. GUNN reported that a painting of a consecration cross of good design had been found at the church of St. George, Tombland, Norwich.

September 13th, 1881. DR. BENSLY reported that the foundations of the bell tower of Norwich Cathedral had been disclosed by the removal of some of the surface of the path in the Close, near the Erpingham Gate, and produced a rough plan.

January 12th, 1882. The REV. CANON COPEMAN, exhibited a gold band ring found in excavating near the site of the Church of St. Crouch, Norwich, in 1880. It is inscribed, VNG . ROY . VNG . LOY . VNG . FOY. It is hall-marked, but the marks are obscure—(1) an object (head to the left? or a harp?); (2) lion passant in plain oblong; (3) black-letter a? Date, probably seventeenth century.

MR. FITCH exhibited a bronze ring, found in the Cathedral Close, with a figure of a saint, holding some object in his hands. Fifteenth century.

DR. BENSLY exhibited a photograph of a mural painting of St. Christopher in Hardwick Church. Also a marriage license bond with the signature and seal of Blomefield; and another with the signature of Edmund Nelson, father of Lord Nelson.

March 7th, 1882. The VERY REV. THE PRESIDENT was empowered to draw up a petition to the House of Commons from the Committee against the passing of a Bill before it for the extension of the Lynn and Fakenham Railway through the Cathedral Close, and to the probable injury

to the Water Gate. [This representation was successful in contributing to the abandonment of the scheme.]

The REV. J. D. GEDGE reported a discovery of Roman remains on the Stoke Ferry Road at Methwold Fen, consisting of a hypocaust, tiles, and a piece of an amphora.

March 29th, General Meeting. The REV. W. F. CREENY exhibited five more rubbings of foreign brasses, of great interest and elaborate character. Four were from Lubeck and one from Schwerin. One of these, in memory of two bishops, date c. 1350, has an example of the representation of souls carried to Abraham's bosom, similar to some in English brasses. Another is to a knight, 1369. A third, from Schwerin, presents a grand instance of the favourite mediæval device of a "Jesse tree," the genealogy of Christ from David and Jesse. It is depicted as a vine in a wavy border, in which are twenty-six crowned figures, with musical instruments. A fourth has some remarkable scenes of knights and savages and festive occupations.

September 5th, 1882. A protest was drawn up, to be sent to the Mayor of Great Yarmouth, against the proposed destruction of the ancient Tolhouse there. [This protest, together with others, was successful in preventing the loss of the building.]

MR. FITCH exhibited an impression of a bronze seal found at Dunwich in 1856, of pointed oval shape, and early fourteenth century date. It is inscribed "SIGILLVM RICARDI FILII CAPELLANI." It has the device of two birds, back to back, with a cross between them. It may be compared with another having a somewhat similar device, in Mr. Fitch's possession, and with two preserved at Cambridge, of which Dr. Bensly has casts.

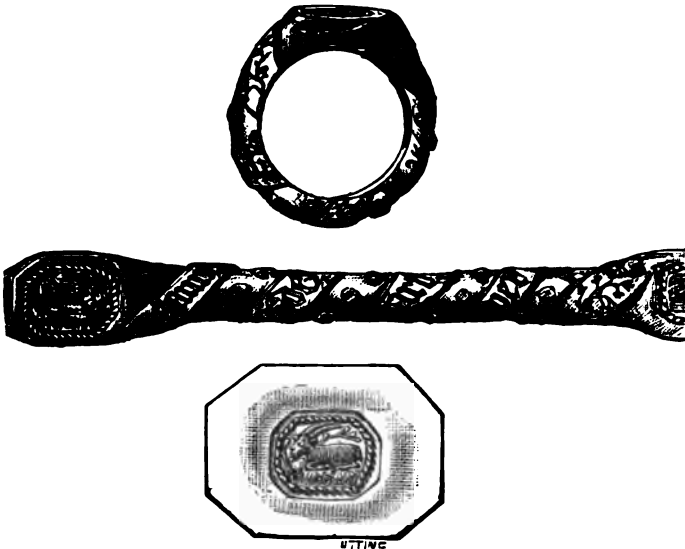
MR. MANNING exhibited a small monumental brass inscription, bought at a sale at Old Buckenham Priory, and belonging to Mr. C. T. Thompson of Magdalen Street.

It was formerly in Old Buckenham Church (Blomef. i. 392.) The inscription is, "Orate pro aia Thome Browne cuj' aie ppicietur deus. Amen."

DR. BENSLY exhibited a MS. volume formerly belonging to Blomefield, containing the original list of the subscribers to the *History of Norfolk*, with notes and memoranda of their payment. It begins in 1736, and has two impressions of Blomefield's book-plate.

DR. JESSOPP reported that he had found in the British Museum the source from which Blomefield obtained the number of communicants in parishes in 1603, viz., a letter from the Archbishop of Canterbury (Whitgift) making enquiries of the bishops as to communicants and recusants.

November 14th, 1882. MR. FITCH exhibited a very fine silver gilt ring, found near Norwich, with a twisted hoop,



and signet representing a hart lying down, or "lodged." The hoop is inscribed, in black letter, with floral ornaments, "Sauns de part t'yer." Query, if not Bishop Lyhart's?

MR. FITCH also exhibited a neolithic flint celt, found at Drayton this year.

A very beautiful silver seal, exhibited by MR. FITCH before, and mentioned in vol. vii. p. 353, has since been engraved, and an illustration of it is now presented by him to our pages. It was found beyond St. Augustine's Gates, in the parish of Hellesdon, and represents a full-faced female head, in the costume of the early part of the fourteenth century. A border of pateræ surrounds the bust, and the



inscription is the frequent one on seals that were probably love-gifts, “+ IE SVY SEL DE AMOVR LEL.” The late Mr. Albert Way considered this seal a fine example of a class—the full-face—that is far from common.

MR. REEVE, Curator of the Museum, exhibited a small piece of early mediæval pottery, found at Trowse Millgate, November, 1880.

DR. BENSLY exhibited a stone carving, probably the corbel of the coping of a gable, with an angel's head and shoulders, from the wall of a stable on the south side of the Maid's Head Hotel, Norwich. Probably fourteenth century.

February 7th, 1883. DR. BENSLY exhibited a coloured drawing of a mural painting in St. Etheldred's Church, Norwich, representing St. Christopher.

March 13th, General Meeting. The REV. E. K. BENNET, LL.D., exhibited, by permission of Sir R. J. Buxton, Bart., M.P., a large number of ancient deeds from the muniment-room of Shadwell Court, with many interesting seals, to illustrate an account of Rushford College, and to explain the origin and history of similar collegiate institutions in the county.

MRS. HERBERT W. JONES sent for exhibition some photographs of drawings of the destroyed screen formerly in Babingley Church, from the collections of the late Mr. Dawson Turner, now in the British Museum.

THE REV. W. F. CREENY exhibited another fine collection of rubbings of foreign brasses, twenty-five in number, obtained in North Germanȳ, including one from Verden, of the date of 1231, believed to be the oldest monument of that class ; and others from Meissen, of the founders of the Saxon Royal Family, ancestors of the late Prince Consort.

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END OF VOL. IX.

NORFOLK AND NORWICH

Archæological Society.

REPORT FOR 1878.

READ MARCH 11TH, 1879.

So much has been achieved, in the present day, by the pursuit of the higher branches of Archæology, that the annals of a local society, such as ours, are somewhat liable to the reproach of tameness and want of interest. In addition to the older fields of investigation, as those of Egypt, Greece, and Rome, modern science has made vast strides into the regions of prehistoric antiquity, and has thrown a flood of light on distant ages by research into such remains as have been found in grave mounds and lake dwellings, in buried cities, as in Assyria, Troy, and Cyprus. Palestine exploration has a society to itself of "Biblical Archæology;" and separate branches of study, such as language and dialect, have made rapid advance. However small our local pursuits may seem beside these, it may be well to remember that it is owing to the impetus given years ago by such associations as our own to archæological studies, that these great results have been arrived at; and that, as with the island of coral, the humble origin and foundation is an important factor in the superstructure.

Our Society, according to promise, has completed the eighth volume of its "Original Papers," as well as the first volume and Index of the "Visitation of Norfolk," and has issued these to the Members. The loan of objects of interest preserved or found in the County to the Secretaries, for exhibition at the Committee or General Meetings, is a practice deserving of extension and continuance, in order that notes of them may be preserved, and a record made in an appendix to our volumes.

The Summer Excursion of the Society of the past year was held in the neighbourhood of Attleborough, when visits of much interest were made to the churches at Great Ellingham, Shropham, Breccles, Thompson (with its fine Decorated work and the remains of the college), Merton, and Caston; and to the old Halls at Breccles and Merton—contrasted scenes of ancient and modern grandeur—the one telling of the former chequered fortunes of the family of Woodhouse, and the other evidencing the unimpaired glories of the De Greys; where antiquities, science, and hospitality were happily combined in the generous reception given to the Members by Lord and Lady Walsingham.

The principal discovery of the past year has been already noted in our "Appendix" to Vol. VIII., but has not previously taken its place in our Annual Report. It is the large find of Roman Coins on the estate of Mr. Mott at Baconsthorpe. Some progress has been made in cataloguing the best of them, but their great number makes the task a slow one.

The Members of the Committee who retire this year in rotation are Capt. Bulwer, Rev. A. C. Copeman, Rev. W. Grigson, R. Blake Humfrey, Esq., F. E. Watson, Esq., and the Committee recommend their re-election, with the addition, to supply one vacancy, of the name of B. W. Harcourt, Esq.

The Norfolk and Norwich Archaeological Society.

THE TREASURER'S ACCOUNT, 1878.

				1878.			
				£.	s.	d.	£. s. d.
1878.	To Balance at Messrs. Gurneys—						20 2 0
Feb. 5.	General Account..	302	18	8			3 1 6
	Deposit Account..	66	8	6			2 10 0
	Harvey and Hudson's seventh dividend:—				369	7	93 1 0
	On Notes in hand		1	10	0		0 16 0
	General Account	13	3	8			0 10 0
	Deposit Account	10	2	4			2 5 0
	6 Subscriptions for 1876	2	5	0			10 0 0
Dec. 31.	24 " 1877	9	0	0			4 13 6
	192 " 1878	72	0	0			£. s. d. 136 19 0
	5 " 1879	1	17	6			284 10 7
	1 " 1880	0	7	6			78 1 6
	Sale of Publications...				85	10	362 12 1
	Messrs. Gurneys and Co. for Interest:—				15	4	
	On General Account..	3	3	3			
	Deposit Account..	1	10	8			
				4 13 11			
				£499 11 1			
				£499 11 1			
				Audited by J. H. DRUERY, 5th March, 1879.			



NORFOLK AND NORWICH

Archæological Society.

REPORT FOR 1879.

READ MARCH 17TH, 1880.

It needs but a few words on the part of the Committee to report the condition of this Society for the past year. A considerable accession of new Members, and a strong financial position bespeak its continued prosperity, and that there is no lack of interest in its pursuits. At the same time the Committee must repeat their expression of regret that more Papers suitable for printing are not offered them, and that great delay is caused in issuing their publications through the difficulty of getting the productions of different writers through the press.

The third edition of Dr. Husenbeth's *Emblems of Saints*, under the editorship of Dr. Jessopp, is being rapidly proceeded with, and several Papers also of much interest are in hand for the First Part of Volume IX., which, it is, hoped, will be issued in the summer.

The Society has to deplore the loss in the past year of three of its oldest and most useful and learned Members :

the Rev. James Bulwer of Hunworth, whose knowledge and artistic skill were long of great assistance, and are evidenced by many valuable contributions to our volumes; the Rev. W. Grigson, an indefatigable genealogist, to whom we are much indebted in editing the *Visitation of Norfolk*, and who was a very regular and useful attendant at Committees; and Mr. Thomas Barton of Threxton, a Local Secretary, who had acquired much experience in Roman antiquities, and was fortunate in the researches made in his own neighbourhood, and always generous in communicating his discoveries to the Society.

In consequence of the meeting in this county of the British Archæological Association in August last, our Society was obliged to postpone a projected excursion, and joined with that Association on one of its days of meeting, in order to visit the beautiful historic mansion of Blickling, when the Members were hospitably entertained, and where its treasures and associations and the history of the Church were ably recounted by the Rev. F. Meyrick. At the same time a visit was paid to the exceedingly curious and beautiful Church at Burgh by Aylsham, on which there are some remarks by the late Sir G. Gilbert Scott, to be published in the next Part. The fine Churches at Cawston and Sall were also inspected the same day.

Among the presents received by the Society last year may be mentioned some valuable works on early American Geography, from the Rev. B. F. Da Costa of New York; and the very interesting and carefully prepared *Memorials of the Family of Palgrave*, privately printed, from C. J. Palmer, Esq., our Local Secretary at Great Yarmouth.

In the Report for the year 1876, the Society felt it due to offer congratulations to one of our oldest and most learned Members, Mr. G. A. Carthew, on the appearance of the first part of his *History of the Hundred of Launditch*; with still more reason may we now congratulate him on the

completion of the three parts, and the conclusion of his laborious undertaking. No topographical work of so high a class has been published in the county since the time of Blomefield; and the methods and results of modern investigation enable it to take even a higher rank than it was possible to reach when Blomefield wrote.

The Members of the Committee who retire in rotation this year are Dr. Bensly, Mr. J. Gunn, Rev. R. Hart, Rev. J. Lee-Warner, Mr. C. Williams; and the Committee desire to recommend their re-election, with the addition of the names of the Rev. Dr. Raven of Yarmouth, and the Rev. J. W. Millard, Shimpling, to supply the two vacant places.

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Dr. <i>The Norfolk and Norwich Archaeological Society.—The Treasurer's Account.</i>				Cr.
1879.				
Feb. 10.	To Balance at Messrs. Gurneys' :—	£.	s.	d.
	General account ..	284	10	7
	Deposit account ..	78	1	6
				362 12 1
	Subscriptions :—			
	1 for 1876 ..		0	7 6
	5 for 1877 ..		1	17 6
	24 for 1878 ..		9	0 0
	167 for 1879 ..		62	12 6
	5 for 1880 ..		1	17 6
				75 15 0
	Sale of Publications ..			28 18 6
	Messrs. Gurneys & Co.			
	for Interest :—			
	General account ..		1	5 9
	Deposit account,			
	£4. 11s. & £1. 4s. 7d.	5	15	7
				7 1 4
				£474 6 11
1879.				
	By S. H. Cowell, for Engravings			£.
	" C. J. Winter, for Drawings			s.
	" Ditto ..			d.
	" Miller and Leavins, Printing, &c.			
	" A. H. Goose & Co., ditto			
	" Ditto, on account			
	" Excursion Expenses			
	" Advertisements ..			
	" Gratuity to Hall Keeper			
	" Postage and Carriage			
	" Painting Cabinet			
	" Purchase of Parts of Vol. 7			
	" Binding ..			
	" Collector's Salary			
	" Balance at Messrs. Gurneys' :—			
	General account		94	7 0
	Deposit account		329	6 1
				423 13 1
				£474 6 11
Audited by J. H. DRUERY, 15th March, 1880.				

Audited by J. H. DRUERY, 15th March, 1880.

NORFOLK AND NORWICH

Archæological Society.

REPORT FOR 1880.

READ APRIL 7TH, 1881.

THIS Society has now completed thirty-five years of its existence, and it is gratifying to be able to say that in the number of its Members, in its financial resources, in its interest with the public, and also it is hoped in its contributions to the study of Archæology, its position is well sustained, and in the judgment of many, of increasing value. Whenever its operations have been noticed by the London Press, or in scientific quarters, it has received decided and even flattering approval.* It is much to be desired that this estimation should be kept up, and with the large balance in our bankers' hands, it should not be difficult to do so. Independently of casual discoveries that may be made in the county, and of more exact descriptions that may be furnished of existing antiquities, there are very large stores of unworked materials for local, family, and personal history, and especially genealogy, remaining in parish registers, wills, records, title deeds, manorial and other

* *Athenæum*, No. 2784, p. 330; *Genealogist*, v. 81.

evidences, which would well repay search; and in connection with these, there is very often much interesting matter to be gleaned respecting such things as seals, ancient customs, dates of churches and mansions, &c. Those of our Members who have access to such documents might do good service by making careful notes and extracts from them; and it seems probable that the future work of such Societies as ours will lie more in this direction, when the more well-known objects of interest are exhausted. There still remains, however, no small amount of profitable labour to be expended in notices of our old churches and castles and houses, of a more exact and full character than they formerly received, and more in accordance with the knowledge of the day.

Our Members will be glad to know that the new edition of Dr. Husenbeth's *Emblems of Saints* is progressing in the hands of Dr. Jessopp, and that it will receive the valuable addition, with many coloured illustrations, of a Catalogue of Sacred Heraldry, compiled by E. E. Blackburne, Esq., F.S.A.

Several articles are in hand for Part II., Vol. IX., of our *Original Papers*, and the printing of them has been begun.

The Summer Excursion of the past year took place among the villages on the Norfolk side of Bungay. Woodton Church, with some good Decorated work and an extremely beautiful window in the south aisle, was first visited; Hedenham Church, its interest somewhat diminished by florid restoration; and Bedingham, a rather early building with a fine screen, and many interesting features, were examined. The remains of earthworks at Darrow Wood, which had long been known to some Members, but never perfectly understood, were next visited, and were recognized as belonging to the class of pre-Norman domestic Castles, with a circular mound, and a ditch and a base court at the foot, which have from time to time been so well described and illustrated by Mr. G. T. Clark to the Royal Archaeo-

logical Institute. It is satisfactory to be thus enabled to add another example to the list of Norfolk Saxon Castles, though on a small scale, and probably left for a larger habitation at the time of the Norman Conquest, and allowed to fall into gradual decay and nearly to obliteration, through succeeding centuries to the present day. A correct survey and plan has been made by order of the Committee, and will appear in our publications. A visit was next paid on this Excursion to the fine Church of Denton, after a very hospitable entertainment at the Rectory, by the Rev. C. A. St. John Mildmay, where, in addition to the beauty of the church architecture, the Members were gratified by being allowed to examine the well-preserved parish documents, especially some churchwardens' accounts, beginning in the reign of Henry VII., and extending over that of Henry VIII., &c. The day's round concluded with an inspection of Earsham Church, which had been visited by the Society before, and has many points of interest.

The retiring Members of the Committee this year are Rev. Hinds Howell, Rev. Dr. Jessopp, Mr. H. Evans-Lombe, Mr. A. W. Morant, Mr. R. M. Phipson, and Rev. W. Vincent, who are eligible for re-election.

NORFOLK AND NORWICH
Archæological Society.

1881.



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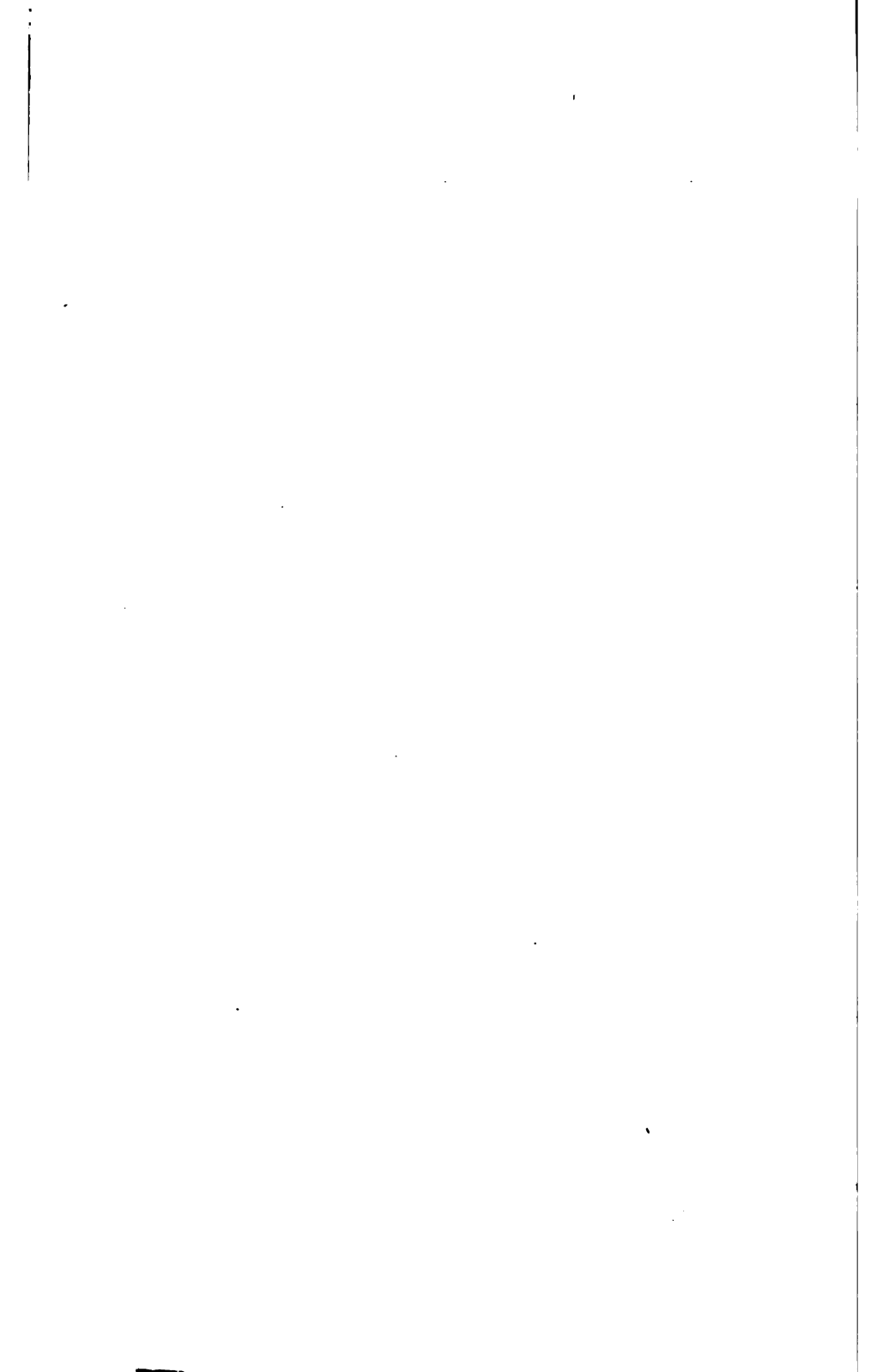
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NORFOLK AND NORWICH

Archæological Society.

REPORT FOR 1882.

READ MARCH 13TH, 1883.

DURING the past year the work of this Society has been sustained at least as well as in former years, and the Committee feel justified in believing that its value and usefulness is undiminished, and even more highly appreciated by the Members and the public. Their edition of the *Emblems of Saints*, under the care of Dr. Jessopp, and with the assistance of Mr. Blackburne and Mr. Marsh, was announced in last year's Report as about to be issued, and very soon afterwards the copies were in the hands of the Members. Forming in itself an attractive volume, it fills a special place in archæological literature, and a demand for copies beyond the limits of our own Members proves the acceptance and interest with which it has been received. The Third Part of Vol. IX. of the Society's Papers has also been recently issued, and some materials for another are in hand, which will complete the volume.

It has long been a subject of enquiry and uncertainty among Norfolk antiquaries from what source our historian Blomefield obtained his knowledge of the number of

"Communicants" in the different parishes for the year 1603. One of our Members has now made the discovery, and it is proposed to print, and expend a small sum in copying, this document,—a return made in 1603 to Archbishop Whitgift of "Communicants and recusants" and other interesting points,—so far as relates to this county.

Attention has been called of late by many archæological societies and leading journals, as well as by some Bishops and Archdeacons in their Charges, to the importance of collecting accurate information as to the old church plate still existing. A volume has been published of this nature for the Diocese of Carlisle: several societies and private persons have undertaken other districts: we have already in Vol. IX. Part 1 catalogued the Deanery of Redenhall, and considerable progress has been made for a list of all the plate belonging to churches in the City of Norwich, which it is expected may appear in the next volume. The Hon. Secretaries would be very glad of any information as to the existence in the county of *pre-Reformation* plate, to add to the small number with which they are acquainted at present.

Some good service, it is hoped, was done by the Society in the past year, by the efforts of the President and Committee, in preventing the destruction of existing remains and the disturbance of ancient and hallowed precincts. Their strong protests against the invasion of the Cathedral Close by a railway, and the removal and entire loss of the old Tolhouse of Great Yarmouth, were among the most prevailing causes of the abandonment of those objectionable schemes.

The Summer Meeting of the past year was one of much interest, and was largely attended. Its chief object was to take advantage of the kind permission of A. C. Fountaine, Esq., to inspect his unrivalled collection, chiefly of majolica, and the pottery of Henri II. and Palissy, at Narford Hall.

The Excursion also included the Churches of Narburgh, Narford, Westacre, and Castleacre, with the extremely fine earthworks at the latter place. The beautiful Priory ruins there were only glanced at on this occasion, and may well form the object of a more worthy inspection another time, although well known by visits of older members in the Society's former years. The Members were very hospitably entertained on this occasion at Narford Hall.

The Autumn Meeting comprised a walking excursion to some of the churches and old buildings on the north side of the river in Norwich, and the remains of the Norman Hospital Chapel of St. Mary Magdalene. There are many localities of this class still unvisited by Members living in the country, and a wish was expressed to continue the plan of inspection of such remains in the City, at future Autumn gatherings.

The losses which our Society has sustained in the past year, by the death of some of its most learned and useful Members, is very serious. Two of the most eminent antiquaries in the kingdom, both Fellows of the Society of Antiquaries, have passed away. Mr. C. J. Palmer of Yarmouth performed most valuable work for the Society, and in his own published historical volumes, in former years. His great industry, and careful compilation of facts, and his important contributions to the history of Yarmouth, are well known beyond the limits of the County; and few of our early Members did more to place the Society in the high position it has long occupied among kindred associations. Of another irreparable loss, in the death of Mr. G. A. Carthew, on the 21st of October last, it is impossible to say too much. A memoir of him from the kindly pen of a fellow-labourer in the County, appeared in the *Athenæum* of November 4th, 1882, and his friends in this Society, of which he was one of the main supports for thirty-seven years, will be glad to have it placed on

record in to-day's Report for their keeping, and as a worthy tribute to the soundest and most respected antiquary we have ever claimed among our members.

"The Norfolk and Norwich Archæological Society has sustained a severe loss by the death of Mr. G. A. Carthew, on the the 21st ult., in his seventy-sixth year.

"He is the last of that remarkable band of local antiquaries of which Mr. Dawson Turner, Mr. Daniel Gurney, Sir John Boileau, the Rev. Charles Boutell, and Mr. Harrod were prominent members, and who did much towards reviving the taste for archæology and local history which is now widely spread in East Anglia.

"He was the son of Mr. George Carthew, Solicitor, of Harleston in Norfolk, by Elizabeth, daughter of Peter Isaac, Gentleman, of Wighton, and was born on the 20th of June, 1807. His father was a younger son of the Rev. Thomas Carthew of Woodbridge Abbey, in Suffolk, who, though a gentleman of large income and good position, seems to have made very small provision for the children of his second wife, of whom the Harleston solicitor was one. The result was that young Carthew's education was somewhat defective, and that he had to make up by painful study for the lack of early training. He used to say that he only acquired a little Latin at a private school at Wells in Norfolk, and that he had to learn good manners elsewhere.

"He was articled to his father when very young, and from him he acquired his love for genealogical and historical research. While still in his articles he fell in with a collection of charters once belonging to Mendham Priory in Suffolk, and though there were in those days few of the helps which are now readily accessible to the beginner, he resolutely set himself to master the contents of the precious parcel, and he actually spent years in deciphering, copying, and analyzing the large mass of ancient documents

which fell into his hands. He was rewarded by finding himself perfectly familiar with the writing of the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries, and it was not long before he had gained for himself a reputation as an expert 'black-letter lawyer.'

"Unfortunately, clients did not come so often as other seekers for information. Both father and son were unworldly men, and the younger Carthew was glad to accept a partnership in East Dereham in 1839, and to start on a new venture.

"He had hardly settled at Dereham when he conceived the design for a 'History of the Hundred of Launditch,' at which he laboured for nearly forty years, and which will long remain a conspicuous monument of his indomitable perseverance and industry. When the Norfolk and Norwich Archæological Society was started under the presidency of Bishop Stanley in 1845, Mr. Carthew's name appeared as one of the Local Secretaries; and at what was in effect the first general meeting of the Society in 1846 he read a paper on the architectural peculiarities of the church of Great Dunham. From that time till his death rarely did a volume of the *Norfolk Archæology* appear without some contribution from his pen, the most valuable being, perhaps, the 'Notice on North Creake Abbey,' in the seventh volume, and that 'On the Right of Wardship and the Ceremony of Homage in Feudal Times,' in the fourth volume.

"In 1872 Mr. Carthew was temporarily disabled by a stroke of paralysis, which, though alarming at the time, exercised no effect upon his intellectual powers. Indeed, his enforced repose only seemed to act as a stimulant to his mental energy, and while still almost confined to his room he issued the prospectus for his 'History of Launditch,' and actually began to send the MS. to the printers. So little notion had he of the immense mass of materials which he had gathered that he contemplated only a single volume,

the subscription price of which was to be one guinea, and the number of copies limited to one hundred. Before the work was finished it had extended to three volumes quarto, illustrated by lithographs, plans and facsimiles, without stint, the printed matter filling just 1,500 pages. The cost of the work after all subscriptions were paid entailed an outlay upon its author of nearly £500, yet he never grudged it; money was to him only valuable in proportion to its power of rescuing from oblivion what was noble and beautiful in the past.

"When the 'History of Launditch' was finished Mr. Carthew began to find life purposeless. He lost his wife and then a sister who kept house for him. He would probably have died three or four years earlier if a friend had not suggested that he should undertake a new work, for which he had already made large collections. This was the history of the adjoining parishes of East and West Bradenham, Necton and Holme Hale. The publication was undertaken by Messrs. Goose and Co., of Norwich, on the understanding that Dr. Jessopp should see through the press any portion of it that Mr. Carthew might not live to correct. About two-thirds of this volume is already struck off, and its author was at work upon the index a few hours before his death. He was found dead in his chair on the morning of the 21st ult., and was laid in the family vault at Harleston on the following Wednesday.

"Mr. Carthew had been a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries for many years; he was a frequent contributor to *Notes and Queries* and to all the leading antiquarian and genealogical publications. A man of gentle manners and singular simplicity of character, he was too easily assailable on the softer side of his nature; but his shrewd dryness served him in good stead on many occasions when a pretender tried to impose upon his credulity. His astonishing memory never failed him to the last day of his life, and

they who were happy in enjoying his friendship best know that the loss of this veteran East Anglian antiquary is irreparable."

A third severe loss has been recently sustained by the unexpected death of the Rev. Charles J. Evans of Ovington, an accomplished herald and an accurate observer. His knowledge and high attainments have frequently benefited our Society, and he was a regular attendant at our general meetings. The assistance which his learning and genial manners would have given in the future will be much missed, and his removal will be mourned in many other departments of public duty to which he gave his attention.

By these and former losses the list of Local Secretaries of the Society has become so reduced that the Committee would be glad of the sanction of the General Meeting to place a few names of Members best qualified to assist, and residing in suitable parts of the County and elsewhere, to become Corresponding Members, that they may inform the Committee from time to time of any discoveries in their neighbourhood, or direct their attention to any matter which it might seem desirable for them to know of. For this purpose, they propose the names of the following gentlemen: The Rev. B. J. Armstrong, jun., E. M. Beloe, Esq., The Rev. C. G. R. Birch, The Rev. E. K. Bennet, E. L. Blackburne, Esq., The Rev. G. Crabbe, J. H. Gurney, jun., Esq., W. Rye, Esq., and The Rev. J. N. Simpkinson.

The Members of the Committee who retire by rotation this year are: Dr. Bensly, Mr. J. Gunn, The Rev. J. Lee-Warner, The Rev. J. W. Millard, Mr. E. A. Tillett, and Mr. C. Williams, who are eligible for re-election.

Dr. The Treasurer in account with the Norfolk and Norwich Antiquological Society. (r.			
1882.			
Feb. 13.	To Balance at Messrs. Gurneys:—		£. s. d.
	General Account .. 49 13 7	By Goose and Co., for Printing ..	136 3 6
	Deposit Account .. 350 1 11	" Harrison and Sons, for Engravings	54 0 0
		" C. S. Alger ..	4 4 0
		" W. Marsh ..	2 1 6
	Subscriptions —	" S. H. Cowell ..	8 18 6
	1 for 1877 .. 0 7 6	" Advertisements ..	1 4 0
	3 for 1878 .. 1 2 6	" Gratuity to Hall Keeper ..	0 10 0
	8 for 1879 .. 3 0 0	" Postage and Carriage ..	4 6 5
	20 for 1880 .. 7 10 0	" Binding ..	1 13 0
	22 for 1881 .. 8 5 0	" Collector's Salary ..	12 12 0
	225 for 1882 .. 84 7 6	" Balance at Messrs. Gurneys:—	
	8 for 1883 .. 3 0 0	General Account 23 6 11	
		Deposit Account 306 12 10	
	2 Life Subscriptions		329 19 9
	" Sale of Publications —		
	Original Papers .. 5 7 9		
	Gates of Norwich .. 1 0 6		
	Pedes Finium .. 4 10 0		
	Visitation .. 3 10 6		
	Emblems .. 17 5 0		
			31 13 9
	Messrs. Gurneys, Interest on Deposit Account		6 10 11
			£555 12 8
1883.	Jan. 30. Balance at Messrs. Gurneys		329 19 9
			£555 12 8
		Examined and found correct March 9, 1883,	
		JNO. ORFEUR, Auditor.	



